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LIST

OF

THE DEANS OF GUILD

OF ABERDEEN,

FROM 1436 TO 1875,

WITH CONTEMPORANEOUS MATTER ADDED,
MEANT TO FORM A LOCAL LEAFLET
IN THE HISTORY OF SCOTLAND,

BY

One of them.

PRINTED FOR PRIVATE CIRCULATION.

ABERDEEN:
PRINTED BY LESLIE & RUSSELL,
CROWN COURT, UNION STREET.

MDCCCLXXV.

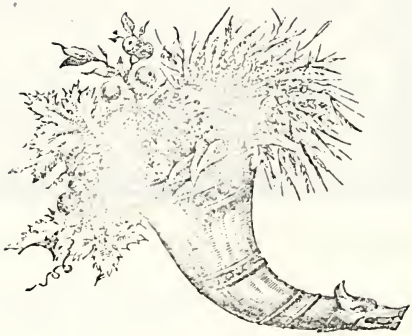
To
John Sutherland Esqr.
Mine own and
My Father's Friend,
AW

1820228

List of the Deans of Guild

OF ABERDEEN,

FROM 1436 TO 1875.



Cura et Industria.

Arthuri Johnstoni Epigrammata,
De ABERDONIA *Urbe*

Cum populo quisquis Romanam *suspicis urbem*,
Et mundi dominam, deliciasque vocas?
Confer Aberdoniam, Thytis *hanc servilibus undis*
Alluit, Urbs famulo nec procul illa mari est:
Utraque sulta jugis subjectos despicit amnes:
Utraque fulminea spirat ab arce minas.
Illa suos Fabios, *invictaque Fulmina belli*
Scipiadas *jactat*, Cæsariamque *domum.*
Mennesios *Urbs hæc proceres, Gentemque* Culenam,
Et Collissonios, Lausoniosque *patres.*
Urbe Quirinali *minor est Urbs* Grampica, *Cives*
Sunt tamen HIC Animis, Ingeniisque pares.

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[Walker, Alexander, dean of Guild Aberdeen]

List of the deans of Guild of Aberdeen, from 1436-1875, with contemporaneous matter added, meant to form a local leaflet in the history of Scotland, by one of them. Printed for private circulation. Aberdeen 1875. O.

SHELF CARD

Preface signed: A.W.

348662 NL 26-2

"Out of the olde fieldes, as men saith,
Cometh all this new corn from year to year,
And out of olde bookes, in good faith,
Cometh all this new science that men lere."

348662

PREFACE.

IN the following pages an attempt is made to give a list of the names of those who have held the office of Dean of Guild of the City of Aberdeen from the earliest authentic date to the present day. The list is defective from several causes. Some volumes of the Council Register are awanting. Sometimes no election was made, in which case, the Provost acted, he being, then, as now, invariably a Guild Brother. The minutes are also often incomplete, and irregularly kept, and it is often difficult to say from which of these causes the deficiency arises. Yet, broken and incomplete as these Records of the "Braif Toun" are, they stand next in completed continuity to those of the City of London. From these, "The Council Registers," From "The Laws and Acts of the Scots Parliament," —From the writings of the lamented Dr. Joseph Robertson, the hale and untiring Dr. John Hill Burton, Dr. Stuart, and the scholarly Dr. Grub—all sons of Bonaccord—help has been had.

That this list might not be a mere record of names —forgotten names — illustrative matter is introduced. Introductory to these, let us read that on the 6th April, 1320, Eight Scots Earls and Thirty-one Barons wrote thus to the Pope:—

"If King Robert the Bruce was to desist from what he has begun, wishing to subject us or our Kingdom to the King of England, or the English, we would immedi-

ately endeavour to expel him as our enemy, and the subverter of his own rights and ours, and make another King, who should be able to defend us. For so long as ane hundred remain alive, we never will in any degree be subject to the dominion of the English. Since not for glory, riches, or honour fight we, but for liberty alone, which no good man looses but with his life."

Brave words these, and bravely spoken then—often since, but never with sterner ring. That struggle for liberty is again and again in process of being resumed, and may it ever be so. The breaks in this list, the duplicate and triplicate returns which mark the period extending from 1490 to 1590, are only explained by the efforts of the members of "Halie Kirk," to keep in place and power.

What these Earls and Barons did in 1320 was in their own way done at the elections by the freemen of the Burgh. The dominancy of the Church was resolutely cast off; and after the Reformation we find neither duplicate nor triplicate Deans, nor such grasp of office as mark the sway of the Deans of 1533 and 1536.

It is time that a grave historical error with reference to Canon Clatt's foundation was corrected. It will be seen that the Chantry which he dedicated to the honour of Saint Thomas the Martyr in 1459, at the time when the City itself was struggling to complete and adorn the Church of Saint Nicolas, was none other than one of the many Chaplainries belonging to that Church—the Church of the Parish of Saint Nicolas. The Bishop of Aberdeen was Parson of the Parish, and the cure was served by a Vicar. The Officiating Members of the Church were the Curate and the Chaplains; all these together forming an Ecclesiastical College.

The Chaplains performed divine service, and celebrated masses at the various Chantries. They formed also the Choir of the Church. These Chantries were founded at various times, to the honour of various saints,

and for the quiet rest of various souls—Canon Clatt's among others. The patronage of many of these Chantries was in the hands of the Magistrates and Council, who nominated the Chaplains. The revenues, mostly feu-duties, were payable to the Chaplains, and were collected by a joint collector for behoof of all. Canon Clatt, in 1459, named the first Rector, Sir John Chaumer; he, Sir John, died in 1480: and at the Michaelmas Head Court of Guild Brethren, held on the 6th November, 1480, a presentation is issued to Dominus Andreas de Camera.

The next notice of the Hospital is in 1508. In that year some changes were made in the Church of Saint Nicolas. Prior to this date, there had been the Curate and twenty-two Chaplains comprising the College. By order of the Bishop the College is reduced to sixteeen brethren, "Singers and Abill men." At a Head Court of the Guildry, held on the sixth of October, 1508, the Provost, Baillies, Council, and Community, agree to give for the upholding of Divine Service, "all their perpetuale Chaplainries, and Saint Thomas Hospital being at their gift. * * * Sall be given perpetuallie till Sangistaris that can sing plain sang and prik sang at the lest, and speciallie to Barnis Burgis Sons, native men born of the Toune, before all others." It is not needful to quote more. During the commotions at the Reformation, we find the Chaplain had difficulty in recovering his rents—sues often for them in his own name in the Baillie Court. In 1574, Mr. John Kennedy, the then Chaplain, lets "the Hospital called Saint Thomas Hospital" to Johnne Cuming, for £3 (Scots) a-year—Cuming finding security that the rent would be paid so long as the said Johnne occupies the said Chappel.

The after history of this Chapel is just the history of much else of the Church's gear, slowly but steadily absorbed into the City's Commonwealth. Long prior to the acceptance in 1560 of the Confession of Faith by the country, the City of Aberdeen had been taking care

of the temporalities. In 1605, the Chaplains' feu-duties, or Kirk annuals, as they were called, are appointed to be sold, and the proceeds stocked—the revenue to be applied for payment of Ministers' stipends.

By flogging on the shoulders, flogging at the cart tail, riding the stang, sitting on the cutty stool, standing in the pillory, and a variety of other ingenious contrivances, uncleanness was to be checked, and the offending Adam whipt out, or kept under. There is evidence that these penances were long continued; but there is none to show that any or all of them did any good. In the burning of witches, Aberdeen held a leading place. Whatever freedom the change of faith brought, it did not for many a long year bring freedom from the grossest superstition. The General Assembly issued from time to time salutary admonitions, and the scriptural instruction "that thou shall not suffer a witch to live," was freely pressed on willing ears. A few instances of the liberal use of the stake and tar barrel are given. Unfortunately they are numerous, and strangely like each other in their revolting details. It is matter of question if the costs of these repeated spectacles had not quite as much to do with their stoppage as a sense of their degrading brutality. That they were popularly attractive, is shown by the ever-recurring entry in the accounts, "spars to withstand the press of the people, yirof there was twa broken." "Item, for a spar broken," and so on. Witch detectors abounded, and one can easily conceive how the informers' vocation was attractive to the most depraved of the species, offering to such, a fine field for feeding fat some ancient grudge. The last witch executed in Scotland was a poor woman at Dornoch in 1722, but the statutes against witches were not repealed till 1759. Not very far from our own door, in 1851, one Andrew Dawson, a veterinary surgeon, was up before his Kirk Session, on a charge of sorcery, and summarily excommunicated, for having cured certain diseases by means of "chucky stanes."

In 1735, in consequence of the impoverished condition of their exchequer, the Guild Brethren create The Additional Fund, as narrated in its proper place. A fervour in good works seems to mark this decade. The latter part of it (1740) sees the Magistrates and principal inhabitants proceeding in procession to Woolmanhill, where they lay the first stone of the Infirmary. They return, and lay the foundation-stone of the Work House, on a piece of ground purchased from the Earl of Aberdeen, at the back of the Town-House.

For very obvious reasons, Canon Clatt's house and grounds remain unsold till 1770, and the product price is allocated then quite in keeping with the previous yields from the same rich lode. Here, as elsewhere, the Corporation was not slow to discover that zeal for the Church was useful. To it, as to many another, "godliness was indeed great gain."

Never did party feeling, in a small way, show its influence more distinctly than in the interpretations given by local writers as to what the Hospital of St. Thomas — Chauntry of Canon Clatt — really was. The new reading of this good man's testament, it may be noted, was made some sixty years after the sale of that tenement and land of his. Again in 1869, the previous writers' blunders are repeated, and we are again told that Canon Clatt had, for the rest of his soul, the glory of the Church, and the honour of St. Thomas, erected "for the reception of poor and infirm men coming to the Burgh, an Hospital." It is enough to say now that this monstrous figment has been proved to be another of the many examples of "the wish being father to the thought," the plain truth being, that Canon Clatt's Mortification was *not for an Hospital.* In 1575, after the Confiscations—after the acceptance of The Confession of Faith—after the Council had erected "An Hospital," *within St. Thomas' Chappell,* poor men are admitted. They are so continued to be admitted for some thirty years. In 1609, the Town

Council, having no doubt good and sufficient reason for restricting, do restrict the class of entrants to "Ye Hospitall of yis Burghe," "which they hove founded," to Guild Brethren—Restriction confirmed by Council Minute of 1631—and there the matter rests till uncared for, and unrequired, the house and grounds are sold, as previously mentioned, in 1770.

To no part of Scotland more than to the City of Aberdeen was the Union more helpful. Its permanent improvement—its enlarged commercial activity—may be said to start from that date. A recent writer has well said—

"Beneath the austere and formal harshness of the age beat warm and passionate hearts; yearning unconsciously after more warmth and light; full of a sublime love of personal, civil, and, in a mistaken way, religious liberty; and animated, on the whole, by a deep reverence for the holiest of all books, and an implicit faith in the omnipotence, though too little, perhaps, in the mercy of a divine Providence. Their vulgarity was the result of imperfect education; their indecency and drunkenness, the inevitable revulsion from the too severe and bitter tyranny of Kirk and State. Torn by civil and religious strifes; forced to win their bread with their right hand ever on their sword-hilt; oppressed and hungered by famines and sieges and the unrighteousness of men in office; engaged in an intermittent hand-to-hand and foot-to-foot struggle with the ever clamorous armies of kingcraft, priestcraft, popery, and the devil—is it to be wondered at that, when after the Union, the country began to emerge from this ocean of bloodshed and famine and peril, its inhabitants were ignorant and rude, behind in arts and commerce, and not so well educated in the *bienséances* of society as were their rivals across the Tweed? Rather let us admire the splendid patience, the indomitable perseverance, the sublime obstinacy in the cause of liberty, the sterling independence of character, and honesty of purpose, that enabled this people, so scattered and poor in numbers and resources, to preserve their spirit unbroken through crises so tremendous; and, after a fierce and long-protracted struggle with more powerful foes, to achieve and maintain religious liberty, and complete political independence. From the day on which the Union was completed and ratified, date the commercial greatness and social prosperity of Scotland. On that day was consummated, at least potentially, the work the Revolution had begun—the comparative annihilation of the power of the nobles. As the aristocracy were depressed and circumscribed, the people acquired liberty, and rose to something like dignity and power. With the establishment of the

parochial system of schools, education spread through the masses; with peace, and freedom from civil and religious broils, commerce grew from more to more, until its ships made white far distant seas; and the healthy rivalry which sprang up between the two countries powerfully stimulated the trade of both."

Just before the Union, the population of Aberdeen numbered, roughly estimated, five thousand. Now, it is some eighty thousand. At this day about four thousand pounds is spent yearly in lighting, making and mending streets, thirty-five thousand pounds a-year for gas, twelve thousand pounds a-year for water, and thirteen thousand a-year for cleaning and draining the town.

The shipping of the port would not in its tonnage then have exceeded that of the herring boat fleet which now, every evening in the season, leaves its harbour. In distant lands, Aberdeen built ships were then unknown. Now, its clippers' prows cleave the waters of almost every sea.

To the record of names that follow, an endeavour is made to give interest by inserting either direct quotations from documents of the time, or the writer's own digest of readings bearing thereon. He did not think it needful to load his page with foot-note references to the authorities used. Those interested know where to find them, and to the general reader they are often an impertinence. Whenever there seemed to be a philological interest in retaining obsolete words or phrases they have been retained.

The list of Honorary Burgesses, given as an Appendix, is brought down to this date, if not held to be useful, it will at once be admitted to be,—ornamental.

The Town House officials have, with ready alacrity, given all the help in their power, and Mr. Frank Shaw's skilled and ready aid the writer has often found invaluable; without it he would have been sceptical of his own accuracy.

A. W.

25 Dee Street, Aberdeen.

"If back to ancient times we turn,
Our bauld forbears did weapons draw,
To fecht for Bruce at Bannockburn,
And be the heroes of Harlaw.
In vain did Donald's bagpipes blaw,
Before the braif toun's burgess' sword,
Tho' Drum and Davidson did fa',
A proud day wis't for Bon-accord."

A LIST

OF

The Deans of Guild of Aberdeen,

From 1436 to 1875,

AND SOME OTHER THINGS.

1436. John of Mar.

Council Register, vol. III., *p.* 117.

It is ordained, that ilk Burges havand fiftie poundes in gudes sall be haill anarmed as a gentleman aucht to be, and the Zeaman of lawer degree, and Burgesses of twentie pundes in guds sall be bodin with hat, doublet, or habirgeon, sword and buckler, bow and schaif, and knife. And hee that is na bowman, have a gude axe and sure weapons, as is foresaid. And the Baillies sall raise the paine hereof in Burgh, gif it beis not keeped, that is to say, of ilk harnished man four shillinges at the first, aucht shillings at the nixt, a marke at the thrid daie, ay foorth quhill he be weill anarmed. And of ilk Zeaman twa shillinges at the first, four shillinges at the nixt, and aucht shillinges at the thrid, and swa foorth, quhill he be weill anarmed.

It is ordained that na man in Burgh be foundin in Tavernes of wine, aill or beir, after the straike of nine houres, and the bell that sall be rung in, in the said Burgh. The quhilk is foundin, the Alderman and Baillies sall put them in the kingis prison. The quhilk gif they do not, they sall pay for ilk time, that they be foundin culpabill before the Chalmerlane fyftie schillinges.

1437.

Johannes de Mar.

Council Register, vol. III., *p.* 121.

It was enacted in Council this year, that na Provost, Baillie, nor office-bearer, be continued in his office longer than one year, and that the Provost 40 days after he goes out of office, give in his accounts and pay all he owes without delay, otherwise never to enjoy any office within the toun. It is further enacted, that no man spend above 20 pence sterling of the common good, without the consent of the Council.

1439.

Gilberto Menzies.

Council Register, vol. III., *p.* 169.

Robert Erskine, Earl of Mar, admitted ane Honorary Burgess. He gave, in ane white purse, Five Shillings Scots. Seemingly the beginning of this practice, which is continued until this day—every ordinary entrant Burgess handing, on admission, to the Provost, a white purse, with 5d. in it.

1440.

Andrew of Culane.

Council Register, vol. V., *p.* 645.

The haill three Estaites nane dissentand, hes ordained, that halie Kirke be keiped in freedome, and na-

man vexe Kirk-men in their persones nor gudes, under all charge, that they may in-rin against God and our Soveraine Lorde the Kingis Majestie.

1444. In this year, William White, Shoemaker, is convicted by an assize for entertaining in his house players at Cards and Dice, and he is appointed to refrain from so doing under pain of Banishment.

1448. Duncane of Clatt.

Council Register, vol. v. *p.* 34.

1450. Electus fuit in D'Gilde

But no name given.

Council Register, vol. v., *p.* 34.

1451. Duncane of Clatt. *Vol.* v., *p.* 34.

1452. Do. ,, *p.* 744.

1453. Richard of Kintore. ,, *p.* 765.

1454. Do. ,, *p.* 775.

1455. Do. ,, *p.* 781.

1457. In restriction of the multitude of sellers, it is seen speidful be the estaite of clergie, and the barrones, and statute by the King, that there sall na persones but abill and of gude fame, and that have at least three serplaithes of his ain gudes, or else the avile thereof committed till him, and sellers in merchandise be free men of borrowes, indwallares within burgh. And since that we have both a King and a law universal throughout the realme, we should have but a meete and measour generall to serve all. That is to say, ane poynte, ane quart, quhilk was given bi the ordinance of the three estates, Schir

John Forrester, that time being Chalmerlane into the burgh of Stirling. . . .

Ane firlot, half firlot, and peck, are also arranged, described, and ane stendert sent till Aberdeen, aneither to Perth, and the thrid to Edinburgh, and now to be proclaimed there as the measures fra the Feast of St. Michael next to cum.

1459. John Clat founds a Chaplainry to the honour of Saint Thomas the Martyr—grants a piece of ground to the east of the Church of Saint Nicolas, with a house thereon, "[redacted]"—names Dominus Johannes Chawmer its Master and Rector—vests the right of presentation to the Chaplaincy in the Town Council—and dies, some six weeks after having completed the deed of foundation. Is this worthy John the Canon, any relation of that Duncan, the Dean, who ruled as above, noted from 1448 to 1452?

1468.	Robert of Culane.	*Vol.* VI., *p.* 21.
1469.	David Colysone.	,, *p.* 96.
1470.	Robert of Culane.	,, *p.* 121.
1471.	Gilbert of Kintor.	,, *p.* 160.

It is statute and ordained, that considering the greate povertie of the Realme, the great expenses and coast made upon the in-bringing of Silk in the Realme: That therefore na man sall weare silkes in time cuming, in doublet, gowne or cloakes, except Knichtes, Minstrelles, and Herauldes: without that the wearer of the samin may spend ane hundreth pundes woorth of land rent, under the paine of amerciament to the King of twentie pound, als oft as they ar foundin wearand silkes, and

escheiting of the samin, to be given to the Herauldes and Minstrelles, except the claithes that ar maid before this Parliament.

1472. Andrew Schires.

Council Register, vol. VI., *p.* 273.

1473 to **1480.** During these years, it is repeatedly stated that there was no election. The Provost acted.—*Vol.* VI., *p.* 335.

Alexander Coutts allowed by the Council to receive one-sixth of a pennie from every fire house within the Burgh, for keeping the causeways clean and repairing them. In the same year, the Provost, Magistrates, and Council, with the community assembled in Head Court, agreed to tax the town in a sum for defraying the charge of blocking up the harbour in haste; it was likewise ordered that if any person sent his goods out of town, and himself go away from the defence of it while in danger, his goods shall be escheated, and himself banished for year and day; and if he had any tack from the town, it shall be taken from him, and his house pulled down.

1481. David Symson.

Council Register, vol. VI., *p.* 608.

Castle of Aberdeen ordered to be furnished with all kinds of implements of war, especially the long spear.

1482. For twenty years no election is recorded. "The riever Edward, calling himself King of England," had promised his minion the Duke of Albany, the title of King of Scotland, if he took as wife Edward's daughter, the Lady Cæcilia. Albany had got quit of his first wife, a daughter of the Earl of Orkney, by divorce, and had married Anne de la Tour, daughter of the Count of

Auveregne. If it had suited his purpose, he could have likely got rid of her by the same means. It is not on record that he did, but Edward used Albany and Douglas to disturb the weak James III. and his kingdom for years. The terrors of the Bridge of Lothir, the butchery of the King after the battle of Sauchieburn, the miserable condition of the finances of most of the Royal Burghs—our own no exception—any one of these is explanation enough of the condition of Aberdeen, and much else.

Nae person sall presume to open his shop on the Sabbath day, under pain of paying a Pound of Wax, or its value, to St. Nicolas Church.

1483. The Council ordained that in all time coming, the inhabitants shall keep their arms ready in their shops to assist the Provost in his office when called upon. The principal Mason working at Saint Nicolas Church is to be allowed yearly £1 10s. 2⅔d. sterling; and it is further appointed by a Head Court, that no Provost, Baillie, or Office-bearer, do spend more of the Common Good than its free produce, to prevent the Town being brought under debt, and that if he should do in the contrary, he shall be obliged to pay the same out of his own pocket.

1484. It was agreed upon in a Head Court that the town should be taxed for defraying the charge of an organ, and for that purpose a certain stent shall be fixed upon for all cattle, sheep, and swine in the town. On the 28th September, the Town Council and Head Court unanimously agree that all officers shall be kept till Monday next after their home coming from the East, whither they are now going to besiege Berwick.

1485. All the Town's Mills set to David Menzies for seven years, he paying of yearly rent £1 13s. 4d., and obliges himself to pay all needful repairs.

1486. This year, in the month of October, William Kennedy, Constable, constituted in the Town-House after the Fair was proclaimed. Alexander Chalmers and Andrew Cullen, two of the Baillies, are named his deputies till the market should be over.

1487. Statute and ordained that the Magistrates of any Burgh shall only be chosen for one year, and that every one of the different crafts or trades shall have a vote, and that no Captain or Governor of any Castle shall bear that or any office in town, but merchants and indwallers only.

1489. Lord Forbes enters Aberdeen, carrying James III.'s bloody shirt upon a lance, and endeavours to excite the people to join with him in revenging their murdered prince.

1490. This year, James the IV$^{th.}$ had a complaint made to him that Sir John Rutherford, of Tarland, was too often made Provost. The King wrote asking the Council to give an exact account of the grounds of complaint against "*his friend Sir John*," and of course confirmed him in his office that year.

1494. Pope Alexander gratifies that excellent prelate, Bishop Elphinstone of Aberdeen, by granting a Bull for erecting ane University at that place. He was originally of Glasgow, but after he became Bishop of Aberdeen, he endeavoured, by building Bridges, erecting Schools, and reforming the people, to make the North vie with the South in politeness and manners.

1495. The sum of 5s. 6⅔d. is given to Alexander Menzies for defraying his charge to go to the King and endeavour to procure a licence from His Majesty for the inhabitants to stay at home from the war, to defend their own town from their old enemies the English. On the

11th July, it is ordained by the Magistrates, Council, and whole community, that all the freemen of the Burgh shall appear on Monday next in their best *abbelziment* for war.

The Magistrates and Council being met at Woolman-hill, there keeping up the ancient and agreeable custom of the Burgh, long used by their honourable predecessors, chose Thomas Leslie and Robert Cullen conjointly as Abbot and Prior of Bon-Accord, to exercise the said office for the year, and be allowed 5s. 6⅔d. out of the Common Good, to be paid them this day twelve month.

1497. Magistrates and Council ordain that One Tun of Wine and some Torches be provided, to be given as a propine to King James the IVth. on coming to this Burgh.

1501. { Gilbert Wenzies. / Andrew Cullane. } *Council Reg., vol.* VIII. *p.* 9.

The Dean of Guild, with his Council, ordain that na man sailing to Dantzik shall be admitted a free Burgher under 5s. 6⅔d. sterling. And it is appointed that James Cummin, Physician, receive ten merks Scots, that is 11s. 1⅓d. sterling, until such time as he be appointed in a Nett Salmon Fishing, either in Midchingle or Foords, grassum free, to induce him to remain in town, but he is to pay the same yearly rent as others.

1502. { Gilbert Wenzies. / Andrew Cullane. } *Council Reg. vol.* VIII. *p.* 158.

1503. { Gilbert Wenzies. / Andrew Cullane. } .. .. *p.* 281.

1504. { James Colisone. / John Retrie. } .. .. *p.* 380.

The Council for keeping up the ancient custom used in the Burgh in honour of Saint Nicolas, ordain that all the Burgesses, with their sons that are able to ride, do with their best apparel, ride with the Abbot and Prior of Bon-Accord through the town, according to use and wont, when warned for so doing by My Lord Abbot and Prior; and if any man who has a tack of salmon fishing from the town, and able to ride, being so warned, and does it not, shall lose his tack, unless he can give such an excuse as to the Council shall be found relevant; and all other persons, not tacksmen, that are duly called, and able to ride, and fail in so doing, shall pay 1s. 8d. to Saint Nicolas Work.

The fore-mentioned, worthy Dr. Cumins, Mediciner, seems eagerly to have been wished to remain in the Burgh; whether the increasing prevalence of "the sickness of Naples, and infirmity of France" had anything to do with this, does not appear. By an act of Council, all suffering from it, are ordered to abstain from holding intercourse with baker, brewer, or butcher; and all light women are to desist from the vice and sin of venery, work for their subsistence, or be branded on the cheek with a key of hot iron, and their houses pulled down.

1505. { Andrew Callane. / Thomas Adams. } *Vol.* VIII., *p.* 506.

The Magistrates and Council appoint that all the Corporation of Craftsmen within the Burgh, do march on Candlemas-day ensuing, in regular order, to wit: first the Fleshers, then the Barbers, Bakers, Shoemakers, Skinners, Coopers, Wrights, Hat Makers, Bonnet Makers,

Wakers, Litsters, Weavers, Tailors, Goldsmiths, Blacksmiths, and other Hammermen, and that they shall march two and two together severally, and each society to have their proper pageant.

1506. { John War. / John Petrie. } *Vol.* VIII., *p.* 607.

Magistrates and Council order the sum of 6s. 8d. to be laid out on Wine and Spirits against the King's birthday.

1507. { Thomas Leslie. / David Anderson. } *Vol.* VIII., *p.* 756.

The number of Brewers of Ale is found to be in the Even Quarter, 37; in the Crooked Quarter, 35 that are free, and 9 unfree; in the Green Quarter, 32 free, and 6 unfree; in Footdee Quarter, 23 free, and 11 unfree; in all, 153.

1508. { John Colisone. / John War. } *Vol.* VIII., *p.* 876.

Beef and Mutton, appointed to be sold at $2\frac{2}{3}$d. sterling, and the Barrel of Salmon for 4s. 7d.

1509. { Thomas Chasomer. / Duncan Colinsone. } *Vol.* VIII., *p.* 1013.

Every Corporation of Craftsmen within the Burgh shall provide one pound Torches, honestly made of four pound wax, to decore and worship the Sacrament on

Corpus-Christus-day, Pache-day, That of the Resurrection, and all other times needful for the honour of the Town.

1510. John Cullane. *Vol.* VIII., *p.* 1124.

The Council and whole community agree, that every good and honest householder shall contribute one half penny, and every one of the poorer sort, the third of a penny, for every fire house, to be applied for cleaning and redding out the Loch, and what remains over after that, to be applied for building the Mills.

1511. { James Colisone. / Patrick Leslie. } *Vol.* IX., *p.* 33.

Town taxed to pay Gunners' fee for six months, in £5 sterling, and for fitting up the Blockhouse for the Artillery, and to pay four able-bodied men, who are to give the advertisement of the approach of the English fleet; two of them are to stand at the Bilt House beyond the water, and by fire as a beacon, advertise the other two watching on the Castlehill; one of whom shall ring the Common Bell for advertising the Inhabitants. In this year the Queen of James the IV.th paid a visit to the City. "At a short distance from the Town, the Queen was met by the Burgesses in their bravest array, when four of their body, young and trusty gallants, apparelled in velvet gowns, advanced with a pall of velvet cramace, under which the Princess took her seat, and was conveyed in this manner towards the Burgh, amid repeated discharges of Artillery."

1512. { James Colisone. / Thomas Mans. } *Vol.* IX., *p.* 140.

This year, the wonder of the world, the Scots ship the Great Michael, was sold by the Duke Albany to the French Government, with her arms and outfit, for Forty Thousand Francs tournois.

1513. Name left blank.

Vol. XI., *p.* 268.

1514. { John Colisone. / Duncan Colisone. } *Vol.* VI., *p.* 368.

Council ordain, that no fresh Salmon be sold till once presented at the Market Place for sale.

1515. { James Colisone. / William Rolland. } *Vol.* IX., *p.* 506.

Council appoint that the Boll of Wheat be sold at one shilling sterling; and the Loaf weighing 26 ounces, for the sixth of a penny.

1516. { James Colisone. / William Rolland. } *Vol.* IX., *p.* 625.

James the V.th often visited Aberdeen, and showed great favour to the family of Menzies, who for many years wisely governed the town and kept it in order.

1517. Again the same Two Deans.

Vol. IX., *p.* 760.

Council and community agree to give the Earl of Huntly three parts of the town's best Artillery, with their

pertinents, to be sent at their expense to Sutherland, for attacking and winning the Castle of Dunrobin, in consideration of the townsmen having liberty to remain at home.

1518. { Alexander Redeford. William Rolland. } *Council Reg., vol.* x. *p.* 6.

The Provost, Gilbert Menzies, is appointed to go to the King and Council, and raise Lawborrows against the Lord Forbes, on account of the great oppression and cruel spoil done to the Borrough by him in its Fishings and Freedom Lands.

1519. { John Blak. Richard Wans. } *Council Reg., vol.* x., *p.* 121.

1520. { Alexander Redeford. Robert Moyses. } *Council Reg., vol.* x. *p.* 239.

1521. { Alexander Redeford. Jasper Cullane. }

The Magistrates, by order of a letter from the King, resigned their office; and a new election being proceeded with, John Collinson was chosen Provost. Hāle Communitie ratified this election made by the King's letter.

1522. { James Collisone. David Anderson. John Collisone. } *Council Reg., vol.* xi. *p.* 183.

It was agreed that the Town shall be taxed, £58 6s. 8d., for liberty to the inhabitants to stay at home and not to attend the Host at Roslin Muir.

1523. { James Collisone. David Anderson. } *Council Reg., vol.* XI. *p.* 356.

1524. { Robert Moyses. William Rolland. } *Council Reg., vol.* XI. *p.* 483.

Gilbert Menzies the Provost, and Baillie Collinson, chosen Commissioners to King James the IVth his first Parliament; and they are to have Eight Horsemen in their train, and be allowed 6s. 8d. for their charge.

1525. { Robert Moyses. William Rolland. } *Council Reg., vol.* XI. *p.* 630.

On August 10th, this year, a letter from the King procured at the solicitation of Bishop Gavin Dunbar, is sent to Sir John Rutherford and Thomas Menzies of Pitfodles, Sheriffs, ordering them to search for those who owned the heresies of Luther or used his books, and that the Act of Parliament thereanent should be published, whereof an extract was sent to all foundin holding those heresies, or reading those books.

1526. { David Andersonn. George Bissact. Robert Moyses. } *Council Reg., vol.* XII. *p.* 1.

Commissioners chosen for settling the Towns Lands and Fishings for 5 years, but not to any of the persons who are concerned airt or pairt in the cruel murder com-

mitted under silence of the night, by Alexander Seaton of Meldrum, John Leslie of Wardhouse, William Leslie of Balquhain, Alexander Leslie of that ilk, and their sons, who murdered four score persons or thereby, at the solicitation of John Collinson, elder, and his accomplices, on Sunday night the 1st October.

1527. { Patrick Leslie. John Batray. Alexander Menzies. } *Council Reg., vol.* XII. *p.* 280.

Departed the seventh day of January, this year of God, the forenamed laird of Meldrum, Alexander Seaton, quha was slayne by the Maister of Forbes in the Provost Houiss.

1528. { John Batray. John Arthour. } *Council Reg., vol.* XII., *p.* 433.

The community agreed to indent, a few excepted, with My Lord Bishop of Aberdeen, for keeping, upholding, and preserving his Bridge over the River Dee for themselves and their successors, so long as they bruicked peaceably the lands of Ardlair, given and assigned over to them by his Lordship, but if the said lands should be evicted from them or their successors, either by law or reason, then they shall no longer be obliged to uphold said Bridge, but from their own good will and pleasure or benevolence; and further, with this provision, that the money arising from the profits of said lands shall be put in a sure keeping for upholding the said Bridge, and not be disposed of any other way, and that there be three keys made, one of them to be kept by the Chapter, another by the Provost,

and the third by the Principal Deacon of the Craftsmen of Aberdeen. This bond to be made out in the surest form to the effect above written.

1529. { John Rutherford. / John Patray. } *Council Reg., vol.* XII., *p.* 691.

No Burgess shall purchase a Lordship (over the toun), under pain of losing his freedom. Commissioners sent to the King to complain of Arthur Forbes of Brux, for killing several of the inhabitants of the Burgh.

1530. { Duncan Collisone. / Duncan War. } *Council Reg., vol.* XIII. *p.* 3.

The Town serves Lawborrows against Pitsligo, Tolquhon, Corsinday, Brux, Echt, and some others of the name of Forbes; and my Lord Forbes finds caution before the King's Council at Perth, for his own and his friends good behaviour towards the Town of Aberdeen.

1531. { Thomas Menzies of Pitfoddels. / Andrew Taledef of Paniestoun. } *Council Reg., vol.* XIII., *p.* 239.

Treasurers and Deans of Guild.

Sheep Tallow appointed to be sold at 6d. per stone, and Nouts at 5d.

1532. { Thomas Menzies of Pitfoddels. / Alexander Gray. } *Council Reg., vol.* XIV., *p.* 59.

Deans of Guild, and Maisters of Kirk and Brig Wark.

The Council having under consideration a war threatened against the Kingdom by the English, ordain

that a Blockhouse be built at the Sandness of 36 feet length, 18 breadth, the walls shall be 6 feet thick, and as high as Thomas Menzies and Alexander Gray shall judge expedient.

1533. { Alexander Rutherford. / Andrew Menzies. } *Vol.* XV., *p.* 279.

It is ordained at this time that whatever person, being in health, shall absent himself two Sabbaths from his Parish Church, shall pay 8d. sterling, to be applied to St. Nicolas Work.

1534. { Andrew Menzies. / Alex. Rutherford. } *Council Reg., vol.* XIV. *p.* 450.

Many at this time hoped that James the IVth. would give his aid to realise the wish to have "One God, one Emperor, and one Chief Priest"; while many more declared that his whole Council was "none else but papistical clergy."

1535. No Election Minuted.

Council Reg., vol. XV., *p.* 7.

Propine for the King against his coming from Rossshire ordered to be ready, to wit:—Two puncheons of wine, six stones of wax, and three dozen pounds of schorshets.

1536. { David Andersoun. / Walter Cullane. / Jonn Chalmer. } *Council Reg., vol.* XV. *p.* 217.

These gentlemen, individually, held themselves elected, and seemingly were elected, Baillies, Deans of Guild, Treasurers, and Maisters of the Kirk and Brig Wark.

About this time at a Head Court, Commissioners were chosen for setting the lands of Ardlair to country farmers and not to gentlemen. They are accordingly let in tack for 5 years. One plough of the Intown at the rate of 11s. 1½d. sterling yearly, and the other three ploughs at the same rent; and the plough on outside, at 13s. 4d., all of them to reside on their tacks, and pay homage and carriage as usual.

1537.

Andrew Talidef.

Council Reg., vol. XVI., *p.* 407.

James the Vth. in Paris, in love with the beautiful but dying Magdelene, daughter of the French King, is reported as "foolishly running up and down the streets of Paris, accompanied by a servant or two, buying everything himself, thinking himself unknown, yet passing carters point with finger, saying "There goes Le Boi d'Ecoisse." He married her, brought the fragile exotic home, landed with her at Leith on Whitsun' Eve, and ere Midsummer, buried her, marrying again in a few months that widowed daughter of the Duke of Guise.

1538.

Mr. Andrew Talidef.

Council Register, vol. XVI., *p.* 10.

The Master of Forbes charged with a design to shoot the King with a Culverin, as he passed through Aberdeen to hold a justice aire. He was executed; so also was about

this time the Lady Glammis, her offence, witchcraft, for the which they burned this noble woman.

1539. { Alexander Rutherford. / Alexander Nicholsoun. } *Council Reg., vol.* XVI., *p.* 355.

Puir Craftsmen of the Burgh of Aberdeen complain that they have to pursue upon Assize in actions distant fra themselves, fourty, fiftie, and sixtie of mylies; they know nathing thairof mair nor thai that dwallis in Jherusalem.—Remeid granted.

1540. { Alexander Rutherford. / Alexander Nicholsoun.

Eventful years for Scotland follow. "James the Vth. King of the Commons" dies, saying in allusion to the Crown having come by a daughter of Bruce to the Stuarts, "it came with a lass, and it will go with a lass." Little recked the dying King of what that lass would live to do and suffer. Mary was five days old at her father's death.

Of the large number of Chantries attached to the Church of Saint Nicolas, odds of twenty of them had been founded or largely enriched up till this date by Burgesses' gifts, in lands, gold, houses, and vestments. A body of Reformers from the south, under pretence of godly Reformation, attacked the great spire of Saint Nicolas, and attempted to level it to the ground. The citizens baffled them; but next year, aided by some of the inhabitants, these fellows entered the Black Friars and Grey Friars Place, spulzeing and takin' awa gudes, gear, timmer wark, and furniture, together with the lead

from the Grey Friars Kirk. They were about to remove the roof, sclates, &c., when the magistrates interfered and confiscated the building, together with its gold, silver, and brass work, to the furtherance of God's glory, and His true word, and preachers thereof. "Oh woful Abirdene, by thy sins thir scourge was laid upon thee." Sir George Gordon of Haddo, the Laird of Gight, the Laird of Drum, and ane hundred horsemen, with some footmen, seize the Provost, the Dean of Guild, and two of the principal Burgesses, and rode off with them.

1541. { Alexander Nicholsoun. / Gilbert Wolisone } *Council Reg., vol.* XVII., *p.* 11.

The freemen of the Burgh dwellin landart, are orderit to repair immediately to the town and reside therein for its defence, under the pain of losing their freedom.

1542. David Andersoun.

Council Reg., vol. XVII. *p.* 296.

Johne and Robert the Town's Common Minstrels, at this time, passe thro' all the rowis and streetis at five hours in the morning, and betwixt aucht and nyne at even.

1543. { Andrew Menzies. / Alexander Rutherford. } *Council Reg., vol.* XVII., *p.* 599.

It is ordainit that the white and claret wine imported lately into the Town by a French ship, shall be sold at 1s. 6d. sterling the pint, under pain of escheating the wine.

1544. { Alexander Rutherford. / Gilbert Molisone. } *Council Reg., vol.* XVIII., *p.* 264.

James, Earl of Arran, Governor of the Realme, and tutor appointed to her Queen's Grace Mary, coming to the Town, it is appointed to be given him, one tun of wine, one last of beer, three stones of wax, and thirty-six pounds confects.

1545. { Alexander Rutherford. / David Andersoun. } *Council Reg., vol.* XVIII., *p.* 537.

At a Head Court, convened 16th January, Provost Menzies publically resigned his office into the community's hands, whereupon the Most Noble and Mighty George, Earl Huntly, Lord Gordon and Badenoch, was unanimously elected Provost until Michaelmas next; and he being present gave his great oath of fidelity, faithfully to administer said office and defend the Town's liberties. Immediately after the said Lord, with consent of the haill toun, appointed Thomas Menzies, his depute in office, of the which office the said Thomas accepted.

1546. { David Rutherford. / Gilbert Molisone. } *Council Reg., vol.* XIX., *p.* 223.

In May of this year, departit David Betoun, cairfull cardenall, without *Requiem Eternam* and *Requiescat in Pace* sung for his soule.

1547. The same two.

Council Reg., vol. XIX., *p.* 403.

1548. The same two.

Vol. xx., *p.* 100.

1549. Do.

Vol. xx., *p.* 297.

1550. Do.

Vol. xx., *p.* 472.

From 1546, the Earl of Huntly's power seems to have been used to keep in office as many of the sons of the church as he could. The whole Town is taxed in the sum of £83 6s. 8d. sterling, for hiring 100 stout men to help to defend the Town against the English, who threatened to invade it in this summer of 1550.

1551. { David Mar. / Mr. Patrick Rutherford. } *Council Reg.*, *vol.* xxi., *p.* 58.

The Council agree to propine the Governor's Grace, being the first time of his coming to Town, with the sum of £5 11s. 1⅓d. sterling for wine and spiceries.

1552. The same two.

Vol. xxi., *p.* 225.

March the 2nd of this year, the haill toun being advertised by hand bell, did convene in the Tolbooth, where they unanimously agreed to set in feu all the lands and fishings belonging to the Town, which were confirmed lately to the community by a new charter from Mary their Queen; at same time they choose Thomas Menzies, Thomas Chalmers, Alexander Rutherford, David Mar, Robert Lumsden, Alexander Knowles, and Walter Cullen, their lawful and irrevocable Commissioners, giving full power to them, or the major part of them, to set the said lands and water fishings suitable to the terms in the new confirmed charter.

1553. { Alexander Chaulmer. Patrick Menzies. } *Vol.* XXI., *p.* 513.

1554. The same two. Do. do.

1555. Do. Do. do.

Provost Menzies and Baillie Mar are chosen Commissioners to the Parliament about to be holden at Edinburgh, and £1 13s. 4d. sterling is allowed the Provost for his expenses, and half that sum voted to the Baillie.

1556. The same two *Vol.* XXII., *p.* 118.

Deans and Treasurers.

1557. { Andrew Lansoun. Thomas Nicholison. } *Vol.* XXIII., *p.* 430.

The Provost sent Commissioners to the Parliament at Edinburgh, who were to have the Queen's marriage with the Dauphin of France under their consideration. The Town taxed in the sum of £33 6s. 8d. to be paid for a licence to stay at home, and not repair to the Host at Fallamoor. The Protestant religion begins greatly to prevail; the Roman Catholic, being still the established religion of the country, great controversies were at this period taking place in all parts of the kingdom in the interests of the two.

1558. { Patrick Rutherford. John Lansoun. } *Vol.* XXIII., *p.* 645.

It is statute and ordained, that in all time cummin na maner of person be chusen *Robert Hude*, nor *Little John, Abbot of Unreason, Queen's of May*, nor otherwise, nouther in Burgh nor to Landwart, in ony time to cum. And gif any Provost, Baillies, Councell, or Communitie chuse sik ane Personage as *Robert Hude, Little John, Abbotis of Unreason*, or *Queen's of May* within Burgh, the chusers of sik sall tine their freedome for the space of five zeires, and otherwise sall be punished at the Queenis grace will, and the acceptor of sik like office sall be banished forth of the Realme.

1559. { David Mar. / Mr. Thomas Menzies. } *Vol.* XXIII., *p.* 28.

1560. The same two. *Vol.* XXIII., *p.* 233.

The Chaplains of the Saint Nicolas Kirk compeared before the Magistrates in the Tolbooth, and presented a petition in writing, in which they represented that they were certainly authorised that certain persons in the southern parts of the kingdom at their own hands, and without any authority, destroy kirks and other religious places, also the ornaments belonging to them; wherefore, they desire the Magistrates and Council to take without loss of time all proper measures for preserving their Parish Kirk from ruin; also, to take the silver work and other ornaments belonging thereto, into their sure keeping until all uproars and tumults be brought to tranquillity. This petition being read and considered upon deliberately by the Council, they unanimously agreed to transport out of the Kirk the Town's Evidents, silver work, and

other costly ornaments, and put the same into sure keeping, and ordered an inventory to be made out of them; afterwards they are delivered into the custody of Provost Menzies, David Mar, Patrick Rutherford, and Mr. Cullane. This charge these gentlemen accept, and agree to account for it to the Magistrates when called for.

1561. { Patrick Menzies. / Mr. George Hyddeltown. } *Council Reg., vol.* XXIII., *p.* 256.

The whole Town being convened, consent to assist the Congregation according to their power, either with men or money, as the Council shall find most expedient, provided they interfere nothing against the Queen's Grace and her authority. The Council being convened, they stent the whole community in the sum of £33 6s. 8d. sterling, for furnishing forty soldiers to be sent to the Congregation.

1562. The same two.

Council Reg., vol. XXIV., *p.* 8.

This day, 26th June, a Head Court was advertised by the hand bell, to meet in the Town House, to witness the sale, by public roup, of the silver and brass work, with other ornaments belonging to the Parish Kirk of Saint Nicolas, which are to be sold to those who offer most, and the money to be applied to the common good of the Burgh. The amount realized was about £45, the silver fetched one shilling and fourpence per ounce.

1563. Mr. George Hyddeltown.

Council Reg., vol. XXV., *p.* 107.

It is ordained that the money arising from the sale of the silver work, &c., formerly belonging to Saint Nicolas Kirk, and now in the hands of Patrick Menzies, Treasurer, be applied for building the Pier, and Quayhead, and Bridge of Don, and for purchasing artillery and ammunition, and that the said money be applied to no other use.

1564. The same Dean.

About this time, one Chaloner, an English merchant, had given so much satisfaction in trading with Russia, that an intercourse was entered into, and the Great Duke sent one of his chief nobles as Ambassador to England, under Chaloner's care. They had three ships, and that which carried the Ambassador and Merchant was wrecked near the Black Dog. Chaloner saved the nobleman, but was himself drowned. The country people seized every article that could be found of the wreck. The Magistrates of Aberdeen kindly treated the Ambassador and his retinue, and safely convoyed them to London.

1565. The same Dean.

Council Reg., vol. XXVII., *p.* 9.

Queen Mary's husband, Francis 2nd. of France, after holding rule in Scotland for little more than eighteen months, died. The Queen's training, love of admiration, beauty, and cultivated tastes, drew crowds of aspirants for her hand. Elizabeth watched with keen-eyed jealousy —is curious in her inquiries about "her lovely face." Mary dances, sings, and as she herself said to Randolph, enjoys herself "like a Burgess' wife." On bleak Corrichie's side, the old Earl of Huntly lay dead; his

son, Sir John, Mary saw beheaded on the Castlegate of Aberdeen, and there, in that City, the capital of Huntly's principality, she was honourably received with spectacles, plays, interludes, and other things, as they could best devise. They present her with a cup of silver, double gilt, with 500 crowns in it, and wine, coals, and wax, as much as will serve her during her being here.

1566. The same Dean, *Council Reg., vol.* XXVI., *p.* 236.

He being now a Baillie.

At this time Aberdeen suffered greatly by its adhesion to the Royal cause, the inhabitants being often severely assessed and plundered by the Covenanters.

1567. { John Lawsoun. / Mr. George Johnstone. } *Council Reg., vol.* XXVI., *p.* 436.

The words put by the Poet Laureate into the mouth of Mary Tudor, may well rise to ours :—

> "Mary of Scotland—after me
> Is heir of England ; and my Royal Father,
> To make the Crown of Scotland one with ours,
> Had marked her for my brother Edward's bride.
> —Your King stole her a babe from Scotland,
> In order to betroth her to the Dauphin."

That Dauphin-husband is dead, Mary a widow, and Darnley the weak ambitious scion of the House of Lennox, is created Duke of Albany, in order to become a second husband to the Queen. The ill-assorted union, denounced by Knox, and praised by every papal agent, soon became to Mary as distasteful as to the nation. Darnley "passed up and down his lane," it is said, "and few durst

bear him company." The advent of the 6th James, owned by Darnley as his son, drew the weakling no closer to his Queen and wife. Though lying ill, Mary left him, and rode twentymiles over rough road to visit and console Earl Bothwell at his Castle of Hermitage. The Earl then suffering from a wound received in combat with Elliot of the Park. The Warden of the Marches followed closely up the hold he had on Mary's heart. She managed to get her husband to take up his residence in the house of the Provost of the Collegiate Church of Saint Mary's-in-the-Fields; there, in the Queen's own bedroom, underneath her husbands', a large quantity of gunpowder is placed—Bothwell with his own hand arranging it—buying, they say, in case of their needing light, six half-penny candles from Geordie Burn's wife in the Cowgate. About midnight the Queen visits her sick lord, leaves shortly after with Bothwell for a ball at the Abbey, and about two o'clock of the morning an explosion, shaking Edinburgh to its centre, takes place, and Kirk o' Field is scattered in fragments. In the garden, next day, with marks upon his person of having been strangled, lay the second husband of the Queen. The intentions of Mary and of Bothwell were soon fulfilled. It is reported of the Queen that she said, in speaking of Bothwell, "I care not to lose France, England, or my own country for *him*, I would go with him to the world's end in a white petticoat." This infatuation continued; and on the 15th May, the reckless scheming Bothwell became the third husband of Mary Stuart. In less than three months after she ceased to reign, abdicating in favour of her son.

1568. The same two.

Council Reg., *Vol.* XXVI., *p.* 613.

The three estaites understanding that the jurisdiction and authoritie of the Bishop of Rome, called the Pape, used within this Realme in times by-past, has not only been contumacious to the eternal God, but also hurtful and prejudiciall to our Soveraines' authoritie and common weal of this realme. Therefor, it is statue and ordained, that the Bishop of Rome, called the Pape, have na jurisdiction nor authoritie within this Realme in ony time cumming.

1569. { Mr. George Johnstone. / Robert Menzies. } *Vol.* XXVII., *p.* 151.

"The Confession of the Faith and Doctrine beleeved and professed by the Protestants of Scotland, exhibited to the estatis of the same in Parliament, and be their publick votes authorised, as a doctrine grounded upon the infallible word of God," is at this time printed and freely circulated over the country.

1570. The same two. *Vol.* XXVII., *p.* 390.

1571. Do. ,, ,, 306.

Act 38 of the Second Parliament of James the Sixth, of date 28th August, 1571, clearly settles that the destenation of all landes, roomes, and possessions holden of Frieres or Nunnes within this Realme, sall be to our Soveraine Lorde; and so settled, without doubt, they were.

1572. The same two. *Vol.* XXVIII., *p.* 773.

1573. Do. ,, XXVIII., *p.* 103.

1574. { Alexander Cullane. / Mr. George Johnstone. } *Vol.* XXVIII., *p.* 290.

1575. The same two. „ „ 597.

For several years, fourteen Elders, seven Deacons, and the Chief Magistrate had been exercising authority over the people in the matter of morality. They had assistants who in market and every public place watched for offenders; incontinence, foul speech, and a variety of delicate and dirty matters, were held to be directly under the Sessions' control. Graduated punishment, from sitting in sackcloth in the Church, standing with paper crown circumscribed with offence, ducking at the crane, to burning on the cheek, and banishment, were the deterrent agencies of the time.

1576. The same two. *Vol.* XXIX., *p.* 8.

1577. Do. „ „ *p.* 282.

1578. { Alexander Cullen. / Gilbert Gray. } „ „ *p.* 524.

Adultrie, whoredom, and fornication, which are all contrary to the law of God, having been negligently overseen and not regardit, it is ordanit, that all bordeleris harlots, and manifest whores, panders who are persuaders of maidens or men's wives, be banishit the town.

1579. { Alex. Chalmers of Cultlis. / William Menzies, Elder. } *Council Reg., vol.* XXIX., *p.* 820.

John Craig, Moderator of the General Assembly of 1577, a colleague of John Knox, and since the death of Adam Heriot in 1574, Reformed Minister of Aberdeen, resigns his charge, and is appointed Chaplain to King James. Craig assists at the consecration to the see of Aberdeen of David Cunningham, Sub-Dean of Glasgow. The war of words between absolute Papist, Prelatist, and Presbyterian is very keen at this time. The son of a Burgess of Perth, appointed to the see of St. Andrews, told the people that there were three sorts of Bishops, —My Lord Bishop, My Lord's Bishop, and The Lord's Bishop; while the learned Melville writes: "We have now maintained for five years a warfare against pseudo-Episcopacy, and have not ceased to urge the adoption of a strict discipline—we have presented to his Majesty and the three estates of the kingdom at different times, and recently to the Parliament, which is now sitting, a form of discipline to be enacted and confirmed by public authority. The King is favourably inclined—almost all the nobility are adverse. They complain that if pseudo-Episcopacy be abolished, the state of the kingdom will be overturned; if Presbytery be established, the Royal Authority will be diminished; if ecclesiastical goods are restored to their legitimate use, the Royal Treasury will be exhausted. They plead that Bishops, Abbots, Priors, form the third estate in Parliament—that all jurisdiction, ecclesiastical, as well as civil pertains solely to the King and his Council—and that all the ecclesiastical property should go into the exchequer. . . . . In fine, they judge according to the dictates of the carnal mind, and not according to the revealed will of God. May God show mercy to his Church and remove these evils."

1580. { William Menzies, Elder. / David Anderson. } *Council Reg., vol.* xxx., *p.* 206.

The Nobles still struggle all over the kingdom to keep in check the widening influence of the people. The young King makes a favourite of Esme Stuart, nephew of the late Earl of Lennox, who, though he had professed the reformed faith, is yet suspected of being an emissary of Rome and the house of Lorraine.

1581. The same two.

Council Reg., vol. xxx., *p.* 529.

No Burgess of Guild permitted to wear a plaid and blue bonnet. If one may judge by accounts, still extant, of the dress of the Brethren of the day, we may well wonder at its gay plumage. Here are parts of the contents of one wardrobe:—A cloak of fine silk, with black lining and silver clasps, a velvet bonnet, with acorns of gold and target of gold, staming breeks, pesmanted with gold, staming schanks, garters of grey taffety with pesmantis of gold, a casakine of damask with pesamantis of silver and long buttons of the same, a gown of violet staming, lined in the breast with serge and bounden with velvet round about, a French black cloak lined with satin in the breasts, and bordered with six broad edgings of velvet round about, a doublet of Lyon's canvas.

1582. { Alex. Forbes. / David Endaucht. } *Council Reg., vol.* xxx., *p.* 723.

At this time the whole country was in a ferment, the Raid of Ruthven, and Gourie's conspiracy increasing, if it were possible, the uneasiness.

1583. { Alexander Forbes. / Alexander Jay. } *Council Reg., vol.* XXXI., *p.* 232.

1584. The same two. *Vol.* XXXI., *p.* 521.

1585. Do. ,, ,, 658.

Among the Lansdowne Manuscripts in the British Museum, is one entitled: "Letter from the Burgesses of Aberdeen, in Scotland, to Lord Burghley, to desire his friendly assistance in behalf of Andrew King, their fellow citizen, and other merchants, his partners, whose ships were plundered by some English pirates."—August, 1585.

1586. Alexander Rutherford. *Vol.* XXXII., *p.* 48.

By the ill-conditioned rabble, the noble Melville was called "ambitious, and of fiery humour." The adherents of the Bishop of Rome claimed controlment over externals and internals of the Church. This the King also claimed. Melville and the leading Ministers were opposed to either. The plot of the Master of Gray, betrayed James at Stirling, and drove Arran into banishment; and again, a new combination disturbed the nation.

1587. { James Seton. / George Knowes. } *Council Reg., vol.* XXXII., *p.* 259.

Mary Stuart had now been a prisoner for nineteen years. Elizabeth feared and hated her. Mary's own son,

James the Sixth, seemed not to care, and Elizabeth caused her much-dreaded and once powerful rival to be beheaded in Fotheringay Castle, on 8th February, 1587; looking more the Queen in her death, than she had ever done in her life. Her last words were: "Into Thy hands I commend my spirit, for Thou hast redeemed me, O Lord, Thou God of truth."

1588. { James Setoun. / David Anderson. } *Council Reg., vol.* XXXII., *p.* 403.

Many now held that their best mourning garment was a coat of steel. The clans, Scot and Ker, at once ravage the English marches—James is indignant, Henry the Third of France angry—the good Queen Bess, with pious horror, declares her ignorance of the crime—while the Spanish Monarch hastens on his preparations for the invasion of England.

1589. { Alexander Cullen. / David Menzies, Elder. } *Council Reg., vol.* XXXII., *p.* 558.

Huntly and his friends, encouraged by promises of support from Spain, broke out into rebellion. The King advanced as far as Aberdeen, where Huntly and his partisans, unable to resist, were obliged to submit.

1590. { Thomas Beck. / George Knowes. } *Council Reg., vol.* XXXIII. *p.* 796.

From this date we have no two occupants simultaneously of the Deanery. In the Convention of Royal Burghs, which met at Aberdeen in June this year, many matters in dispute between "the Burgesses and the

administration of the Town," as Kennedy words it, were up for discussion; without doubt that Convention settled the illegality of these double elections, and for ever stopt them.

1591. James Setoun. 1820228

Council Register, vol. XXXIV., *p.* 4.

The first constitutional appointment for one hundred years; this has continued without break for these last two hundred and eighty-four. To follow to the grave in black clothes the remains of Kennedy of Carnuck, constable of Aberdeen, costs at this time the payment of ten pounds, which we find is made to the Maister of Kirk and Brig Wark.

1592. Mr. Richard Irbing.

Council Register, vol. XXXIV., *p.* 555.

The Citizens equipped themselves in arms, and there in the Grey Friars Church met to oppose the elections; instead of fighting, they deputed three of the sitting Magistrates to mediate. This these deputies managed. The high contending parties met each other peacefully on the Woolmanhill, hence they went to Church, and heard a sermon; afterwards, over a friendly glass at the Cross, they finished up the day and the elections of that year in amity.

1593. John Tallidaf.

Council Reg., vol. XXXV., *p.* 2.

James the Sixth visits the town, *borrows* two thousand merks, and goes south.

1594. Alexander Clyn.

Council Reg., vol. XXXVI., *p.* 2.

The Kirk of Scotland is in this year declared "to have now come to perfection, and the greatest purity that ever she attained unto, both in doctrine and discipline, so that her beauty was admirable to foreign Kirks." Comforting words these, no doubt, to one side of the house at any rate.

1596. David Cargill.

Council Reg., vol. XXXVI., *p.* 332.

Our Sovereign Lord, with advice of his estaites in this present parliament, ratifies and confirms the act and statue maid in his Hienes' Parliament . . in favours of the free burrowes of this Realme, and their liberties and priviledges against unfree trafficquers.

1596. William Dun.

Council Reg., vol. XXXVI. *p.* 631.

Item, for cirding Shypack, quha diet in prison, 7s. and 8d. Scots. For trailing Monteith thro' the streets of the toun in a cart, quha hangit hersel in prison, and for cart hyir, and for cirding her, 10 shillings. Kathrin Fergus and Seidler, item for 26 leads piets to burn them, 4 lib. 4 shill.; item, 4 tar barrels, 33 shill.; item, twa iron barrels, 6 shill. and 8 pence; item, a staik, carrying and upsitting yrof, 13 shill. and 4d; item, 6 fadoms tows, 6 shill.; item for caricing the barrels, fyr, and coillies to the staik, 6 shill. and 8d.; John's fee, 13 shill. and 4d. Isobel Richie, Margaret Og, Helen Rodgir, and Elspet Henderson, item, 44 leads piets, 4 lib.

12 shill.; item, 4 tar barrels, 30 shill.; item, twa oylie barrels, 18 shill.; item, six leads fyr, 28 shill.; item for twa iron barrels, 6 shill. and 8d.; item, for aucht fadoms tows, 8 shill.; item, for coillies and piets to try them in the librarte twa days before the execution, 6 shill. and 8d.; item, for a stack, dressing it, and carrieing it to the Hill, 13 shill. and 4d.; item, for a spar broken at the execution, 4 shillings; John's fee, 20 shillings.

Alexander Reid, Smith, gets for twa pair shakles to the witches in the Stepell, 32 shillings, and Thomas Dickson, in recompense of his halbert being broken at the execution of the witches, 30 shillings. John Justice, for burning on the cheek four severall persones suspected of witchcraft, 26 shillings and 8d. The joggis, steppals, and locks, cost 16 shillings and 8 pence.

At a Meeting of the convention of Royal Burghs this year, "the set of the Borough of Aberdeen is fixed."

1597. David Cargill.

Council Reg., vol. XXXVII., *p.* 3.

On Sunday, the 26th June, the Bishop preached in the Old Church, and there was "of nobillmen, barones, gentlemen, and common pepill, sic a confluence that the lyke was never seen in that Kirk." The Earls of Huntly and Errol had the previous day buried all quereles and deadlie feuds betwixt them, and to-day, they renounced Popery—affirmed the Protestant religion to be the only true faith—and swore to defend it to the death. Next day, Monday, the Earls' pacification and peace were proclaimed with sound of trumpet. The wand of peace delivered to them, and the Ministers and Magistrates receive them amid deafening discharges of fire-arms. The

parties sit down to a great feast in the open air, wine flows in abundance, glasses are broken, sweet-meats cast among the crowd, "gadder quha so pleasis." Earls and Ministers then proceed to the Tolbooth, where they are made Burgesses, and spend the evening, we are told, in "wauchting," *i.e.*, drinking.

1598. Alexander Kemp.

Council Reg., vol., XXXVIII., *p.* 2.

The costs of these witch burnings, and all the other *auto-da-fès*, were taken from the funds of the Guild Brethren; from the same source a fee was given to the Dean, and also John Justice's fee.

1599. David Cargill.

Council Reg., vol. XXXVIII., *p.* 860.

Guild Box established during Dean David Cargill's rule, "siller input in said box to be imployit and bestowit to the help and support of decayit bridders of gild of this burgh, and evrie persone admitted free burges of gild of said burgh, sall at the time of his admission, pay to the box 6 shillings and 8 pence, and farder as they sall be movit to giff."

1600. Alexander Kemp.

Council Reg., vol. XXXIX., *p.* 624.

During the period embraced within the dates 1600 and 1700, by far the largest amount of Mortifications to the Guild Brethren's charities and other good purposes, is made, *vide* those quaint old letterings on the eighty boards hanging at the entrance to the Council Chamber at this

day. These bequests are at the rate of rather more than one each two years. They are given by 55 individuals.

1601. David Cargill.

Vol. XL., *p.* 182.

1602. Alexander Kemp.

Vol. XL., *p.* 801.

1603. David Cargill.

Vol. XLI., *p.* 384.

Robert Carey, son of Lord Hunsdon, galloped into Holyrood Court late on a Saturday night, and wakened King James to tell him that he was Monarch of England, Scotland, France, and Ireland. Elizabeth died on Thursday morning; Carey was in Edinburgh on Saturday night. On the 5th April, James left Edinburgh with a large train of attendants; on the 6th of May he entered London.

His Majesty's Lord Clerk, Register of Scotland, Alex. Hay, makes this year a gift to the City of Aberdeen of certain small feu duties, in value, *Two Pounds Five Shillings and Eight Pence sterling* per annum, which, *as far as it will go,* he destines for keeping in repair the Bridge of Don. This bequest, popularly known as the Brig o' Don Fund, has been excellently well managed by the Town Council, and is now one of the best under its control.

1604. Mr. William Moir.

Council Reg., vol. XLI., *p.* 908.

A Meeting of the General Assembly of the Kirk had been appointed to be held at Aberdeen, on the last Tuesday of July, 1604. On the day named, James Melville

and two other Commissioners appeared within the Kirk of Saint Nicolas, and solemnly protested, that, as they were present to attend to their duty, whatever loss the Church might sustain should not be attributed to them, or to the Presbytery whose commission they bore. The Assembly having been continued till July, 1605, meets then, but is forbidden to sit; notwithstanding the absence of last Moderator, the Ministers assembled choose John Forbes, the Minister of Alford, to be Moderator. They are ordered to depart by Royal proclamation, which they do, agreeing to meet in the same place in September. For their defiance of Royal authority, the Moderator and several others are committed prisoners to Blackness.

1605. David Cargill.

Council Reg., Vol. XLII., *p.* 579.

James the Sixth names Scotland and England "Great Britain," and is said to have been proud of his nomenclature.

1606. Mr. William Moir.

Council Reg., vol. XLII., *p.* 947.

The sum of 400,000 merks is this year granted by Parliament to the King, for the purpose of paying his debts and repairing his palaces.

1607. David Cargill.

Council Reg., vol. XLIII., *p.* 280.

It is statue and ordained that all Schiress, Stewarts of Royalties and Regalities, Provosts, Baillies, and Aldermen of Burrowes, ilk ane of them, within their anne

bound and jurisdiction, put the Acts of Parliament anent weights, metts, and measures to due execution, betwixt the date hereof, and the first day of January to come, under all heighest paine.

1608. **Alexander Kemp.**

Council Reg., vol. XLIII., *p.* 739.

An Act of Parliament this year, restrains the marriage of Scots subjects upon the daughters of broken men and thieves of England. Scots committing injury in England are now no longer held as doing acceptable service.

1609. **David Cargill.**

Council Reg., vol. XLIV., *p.* 108.

A judgment on a point of the common law of England does more than all the labours of the King, the Court, or the two Parliaments, to make the English and Scots one people. It is at this date decided, that all persons born in Scotland after the union of the Crowns in 1603, shall be entitled in England to all the privileges of Englishmen.

1610. **William Jun.**

Vol. XLIV., *p.* 686.

1611. **David Cargill.**

Vol. XLV., *p.* 115.

The Curia Gilde this year appoint ten brethren to be distributors of the proceeds of the Guild Box among decayed brethren.

1612. Thomas Cullen.

Vol. XLV., *p.* 780.

1613. David Cargill.

,, XLVI., *p.* 434.

1614. Thomas Cullen.

,, ,, *p.* 846.

In October, the business of the Box postponit on account of the small number of brethren present; it is, however, brought forward and administered in January next year.

1615. David Cargill.

Council Reg., vol. XLVII., *p.* 306.

John Ogilvie, a Jesuit priest, is, after trial, found guilty of having said that the Pope had power to excommunicate the King. He is condemned to be hanged and quartered. Addressing the people after sentence, he said, "If there be here any hidden Catholics, let them pray for me, but the prayers of heretics I will not have." At the scaffold his last words were—"Maria, Mater, gratia, ora pro me, omnes, sanctoque, orate pro me." The quartering was not carried out.

1616. Mr. William Moir.

Vol. XLVII., *p.* 738.

1617. Mr. John Mortimer.

,, XLVIII., *p.* 234.

1618. Mr. Thomas Johnstone.

,, ,, 536.

James was much engaged in arranging *some* form of Prelacy that Scotland *would* accept. He had paid a visit to his native land. In his Palace of Holyrood, English

prelates had conducted service for him, in the Chapel there, after the English ritual. He had, by Act of Parliament, got the Principal of King's College declared Dean, and the Sub-Principal Sub-Chaunter of the Cathedral Church of Aberdeen.. The observance of Five Holy-days had been enjoined. The people in many churches had partaken of Holy Communion kneeling. On Whitsunday, several members of the Privy Council had communicated in the Chapel Royal at Holyrood. His Most Gracious Majesty put himself to much trouble to erect suitable robes for Protestant Bishops reinstated to the old honours of the order. "One inconvenience begets another," said Spottiswood. "The warrant sent home for the Papists of Aberdeen, caused the lords grant ane suspension of their horning"; in fact, the prelates are, like others, taught that the Court of Session, as the supreme civil tribunal of the realme, could control even their judgments. At a mixed meeting, where Bishops and Presbyterian ministers were squabbling, Calderwood reports that some one said, "It is an absurd thing to see men sitting in silks and satins, and crying poverty, poverty; in the meanwhile, purity is departing;" and so it was.

1619. David Cargill.

Vol. XLIX., *p.* 386.

1620. Thomas Johnstone.

,, ,, 536.

James the Sixth shewed as great favour to the Menzies as any of his predecessors, and he now honoured Thomas Menzies of Cults, with the title of Knighthood, in his own private chamber, in the presence of the best sort of nobility of both kingdoms. The King acknow-

ledged before all present that Menzies was worthy of this honour, by his birth, by his many good services done to the state and to Aberdeen, and by his good treatment to all the King's servants who came to see that flourishing city. Towards the end of the year, Sir Thomas goes up to London, and makes a present to the King of that pearl which for bigness and beauty was the finest ever found in Scotland. It was taken from the burn of Kellie, just where it enters the River Ythan. It is said that this pearl is now in the Regalia.

1621. William Forbes, Younger.

Council Reg., vol. L., *p.* 116.

Act I. of the Scots Parliament of this year, is entitled "A Ratification of the Five Articles of the General Assembly of the Kirke, holden at Perth in the month of August, 1618." Act II., "Anent the taxation granted to his Majestie of Thirtie Shillings termly, upon the pound lands, and the twentie pennie of all annual rents." "Act III., "Anent the collecting and inbringing of the taxation, and releife to the prelates." Act IV., "An Act of Ratification in favour of the Prince, His Majesty." Act V., "Anent the Plantation of Kirkes." Then follows acts to grant leave to Bishops to set their Warde Lands in Fear-Ferme. Land given to Ministers for their Gleybes, to be teynd free. In short, with the exception of one act against dyeeing, carde-playing, and horse-racing, and one anent weights and measures, every act of this the Twenty-third Parliament of James, is for the benefit of either Prince or Prelate.

1622. Alexander Jaffray. *Vol.* L., *p.* 408.

1623. Mr. Mathew Lammynsden. ,, ,, 760.

1624. Alexander Chalmer. ,, LI., *p.* 130.

The learned Dr. William Forbes, son of a Burgess of Guild of the City of Aberdeen, eminent alike for eloquence, pulpit power, and tolerant expression of opinion, had, six years before this date, held a discussion in Aberdeen with Andrew Aidie, then Principal of Marischal College. Forbes maintained the lawfulness of prayers for the dead ; the Principal maintained the opposite. It is said that he gained nothing by the discussion, and that the city's feeling was greatly with the popular preacher. Since that date, Forbes had been translated to Edinburgh, where his fearless outspoken utterance was not so much esteemed. Two Edinburgh Burgesses, a butcher, and a merchant, objected to his teaching. Forbes peremptorily refused to submit to the judgment of his flock. A Baillie Rigg made himself conspicuous—Dr. Forbes told him that in place of admonishing his teacher, he had need himself to learn his catechism. Rigg, and five other burgesses, were summoned before the Privy Council, condemned, and sent to Blackness. The learning and eloquence of Dr. Forbes were insuficent to shelter him from annoyance in Edinburgh, and his health failing, he, much to the joy of his old flock, resigned his metropolitan charge and returned to them. Nothing shews more the difference between the feeling of the time in the two cities than their treatment of this pious man, who firmly believed—and did not fail to proclaim from his pulpit his belief—

that the differences between the Church of Rome and Protestants in some important points were more apparent than real, and were capable of reconcilement without much difficulty.

1625. Mr. Mathew Cummyisden.

Council Reg., vol. LI., *p.* 201.

In this year, James the Sixth died, leaving Scotland, with all its distractions at his death, a better and more prosperous country than he found it at his birth.

1626. George Baard. *Vol.* LI., *p.* 293.

1627. Robert Farquhar. ,, ,, 395.

1628. George Baard. ,, ,, 452.

1629. Robert Farquhar. ,, ,, 506.

On the 9th of October this year, at the Curia Gilde, the business of the Guild Box was adjourned, in consequence of the absence of Maister Robert Farquhar, the Dean. It was taken up in the January Court following.

1630. Robert Alexander. *Vol.* LII., *p.* 2.

1631. George Morisone. ,, ,, 26.

This year, Charles the First visits Scotland, and insists upon resuming the Church Lands, Sheriffships, and all other heritable jurisdictions. The then Marquis of Huntly, in consideration of Five Thousand Pounds, which never was paid him, resigned the Sheriffship of Aberdeen and Inverness.

1632. Mr. Mathew Lummysden.

Vol., LII., *p.* 78.

1633. John Leslie.

,, ,, 126.

At the October meeting this year, an account of the Guild Box is laid before the Curia Gilde, and the Brethren name for the last time, "distributors." From 1633, the duty of distributors devolved on the Dean of Guild's Assessors. In 1772, the payments are stated to be by Act of Council and Guild Court. The actual Box soon fell out of use, and accounts of the revenue and expenditure began to be kept by the Dean of Guild in an account titled "Guild Box," along with his accounts of casualties.

1634. Walter Robertsone.

Vol. LII., *p.* 174.

1635. Paule Colinsonn.

,, ,, 224.

1636. George Richard.

,, ,, 296.

Laud writes to the Bishop of Aberdeen, that his Majesty, Charles the First, is much displeased that his Lordship of Aberdeen had suffered the Public Fast to be kept in his Diocese upon the Lord's Day. The Book of Canons, entitled, "Canons and Constitutions, Ecclesiastical, gathered and put in form for the Government of the Church of Scotland, ratified and approved by His Majesty's royal warrant, and ordained to be observed by the Clergy, and all others whom they concern," printed in Aberdeen, is this year issued.

1637. William Moir.

Council Reg., *Vol.* LII., *p.* 352.

The Aberdeen doctors, John Forbes, Robert Baron, Alexander Scroggie, William Leslie, James Sibbald, and Alexander Ross, sent this year a paper to the Scottish Primate, drawing a distinction between absolute consent in everything, and agreement in essential points. They declared that both the Lutherian and the Reformed, rightly understood, agreed in those matters of faith as to which the ancient Church had been of one opinion. In learning, as well as in broad Christian sympathy, our Aberdeen doctors were in advance of many of the Southern theologians.

1638. Walter Cochraine.

Council Reg., vol. LII., *p.* 494.

The Covenanters send Commissioners to Aberdeen to propagate their doctrines. These Apostles have small success. The Ministers and Professors involve them in controversy, and gain an easy victory. The magistrates and a vast majority of the citizens adhere to the Episcopal tenets of their Ministers, and refuse to recognise the solemn league and covenant. Charles, in a letter, expressed his approval, and shortly after, by a new charter, confirms all former privileges. "But, dearly were these favours bought," says Spalding, "as we may hereafter see."

1639. Alexander Jaffray.

Council Reg., vol. LII., *p.* 495.

In this year, the *Tables* began to levy troops. The citizens fortify the town. Ditches were cut from the Gallowgate port along the north side of the city to the Castle Hill. Eleven pieces of ordnance are planted in the

streets—council of war chosen—pikes, muskets, and ammunition purchased. During these preparations, Montrose turns his steps northwards; enters the undefended city in triumph, on the 30th March, with about 9,000 troops. Covenanting persons proclaim that their enemies (the citizens who had left the town without fighting), had fled, while none pursued; that the curse was alighting upon Mirar, which came not to help the Lord against the mighty. Because the Borrowing Days (the last days of March), were fine, in sermons this was pointed to as evidence of God's pleasure, these days being usually stormy. On Wednesday, the 3rd April, in the Grey Friar's Kirk, the inhabitants are commanded to sign the Covenant. Montrose endeavours with his soldiers to enforce it. Covenanting clergy from the pulpits excommunicate the Bishops. A levy of 100,000 merks is made, and men and women are urged to swear by their uplifted hands to God that they did subscribe and swear this Covenant willingly and freely, and from their hearts, and not for any fear or dread that should happen. But, the Lord knows how thir toune's-people were brought under perjurie for plain feare, by tyranny and oppression of thir Covenanters.

1640. Robert Cruickshank, Younger.

Council Reg., vol. LII., *p.* 577.

The "Trot of Turriff," a victory on the royalist side, and the battle of "The Brig of Dee," a triumph to the Covenanting arms, balanced matters so far, but, in "their brotherly love," the Tables had given instructions to burn the town; Montrose thought it best to advise a night upon it, since Aberdeen was the London of the north,

and the want of it would prejudice themselves. The pacification of Berwick saved Aberdeen, not the kindness of Montrose, Marischall, or Lord Muchals. Seven score Burgesses were seized, and sent off with their servants to join Lesly's army for the invasion of England, and a debt of fully Twenty Thousand Pounds was incurred by the city in its struggle for the right.

1641. Alexander Burnett, Elder.

Vol. LII., *p.* 671.

1642. Walter Cochrane.

,, ,, 755.

Many of the citizens are drafted into the Covenanting ranks against their will.

1643. John Jaffray.

Vol. LII., *p.* 807.

1644. Walter Cochrane.

,, LIII., *p.* 10.

A Burgher guard of one hundred and twenty drilled daily on the Links. Aberdeen suffered shortly after, its third chastisment at Montrose's hands. This fight, a very unequal one, began about the Justice Mills: the Citizen's army was soon defeated and driven before the troops—no quarter was given. Thir cruel wish, seeing a man well clad, would first tyr him to saif his clothes unspoiled, syne kill the man. The wife durst not cry nor weep at her husband's slauchter before her eyes, nor the mother for the sone, nor the dochter for the father, which, if they were heard, then were they presentlie slayne also." Montrose evidently believed "that fire, and sword, and desolation, was a godly thorough Reformation."

1645.	William Petrie.	*Vol.* LIII., *p.* 57.
1646.	Do.	,, ,, 86.
1647.	Patrick Moir.	,, ,, 135.
1648.	Thomas Melville.	,, ,, 184.
1649.	Do.	,, ,, 233.

On the 30th January this year, in front of the Banquetting Hall of Whitehall Palace, Charles Stuart was beheaded.

1650. Mr. Alexander Skene.

Council Register, vol. LIII., *p.* 279.

The son of the murdered monarch landed at Speymouth, on the 4th July, and entered Aberdeen with his mistress on the 7th. Though he remained only a day, his visit cost the city more than 1000 pounds Scots. His gallantries gave offence, and the learned William Douglas was appointed to rebuke the Merry Monarch. "If you do it, close the windows," said the preacher.

1651. Mr. Alexander Forbes.

Council Register, vol. LII., *p.* 328.

The Second Charles revisits Aberdeen in February. No British monarch has visited the city since, till her Most Gracious Majesty did. General Monck entered Aberdeen on Sunday, the 7th September. "I remember well of these regiments coming to Aberdeen," says Bishop Burnett; "there was an order and discipline, and a face of gravity and piety among them that amazed the people. Most of them were Independents and Anabaptists. They

were all gifted men, and preached as they were moved. They never disturbed the public assembly in the churches but once. I was then present. They reproached the preachers with laying things to their charge that were false. The debate grew very fierce; they drew their swords, but there was no hurt done: yet Cromwell displaced the Governor for not punishing this." These troops remained in Aberdeen for many years; fortifications were erected by them on the Castle Hill, with materials brought from the Bishop's Palace, Old Aberdeen.

1652.	Alexander Howieson.	*Vol.* LIII., *p.* 364.
1653.	Do.	,, ,, 398.
1654.	Do.	,, ,, 428.
1655.	Alexander Robertson.	,, ,, 462.
1656.	Thomas Melville.	,, ,, 521.
1657.	John Scott.	,, ,, 563.
1658.	Gilbert Mollysonn.	,, ,, 627.
1659.	Thomas Mersyer.	*Vol.* LIV., *p.* 101.
1660.	John Duncane.	,, ,, 287.

Cromwell was two years dead—his son Richard had retired to his farm—the army was splitting up into divisions—a new Parliament had been summoned, when Monk announced that a messenger from Charles was waiting. A warm invitation was at once sent, and the King returned to his native land, entering London on his birthday. Never had there been such joy

in England; flowers strew the road—bells ring merrily—old cavaliers who had fought at Edgehill and Naseby weep for very gladness. No tumult mars the joy of the restoration.

1661. John Burnett.

Council Reg., vol. LIV., *p.* 301.

Mr. Irvine of Drum had the previous year been sent to London with a congratulatory address to His Majesty on his restoration; and this year, the Provost, Mr. Gilbert Gray, is sent on a like errand, at a cost of about £500.

1662. Thomas Mitchell. *Vol.* LIV., *p.* 391.

1663. George Cruickshank. ,, ,, 420.

1664. Thomas Mitchell. ,, ,, 549.

The Earl of Mar and confederates, with odds of 2500 horse and foot, came and destroyed the cruive dyke on the Don. The dyke was restored, but no redress was got for this outrage.

1665. John Smyth.

Council Reg., vol. LIV., *p.* 629.

Aberdeen put into a posture of defence in anticipation of a war with Holland—the Blockhouse repaired, and four new guns mounted. 1800 merks is given to Earl Marischall for six pieces of cannon.

1666. Walter Robertsone.

1667. Andrew Skeen.

1668. George Leslie.

Militia are for the first time raised in Scotland—120 are apportioned to the city by the Commissioners—dress to be of red plaiding; arms, sword, and musket. The Guild Brethren undertake to pay for these.

1669. Gilbert Black.

Vol. LV., *p.* 173.

1670. William Dabie.

,, ,, 253.

It would appear that at this period the Magistrates and Council had a power lodged in them for directing the ministers within the town in their duty, for at a Meeting of the Council, on the 5th January, 1670, it being then taken under consideration that the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper had not been duly nor so frequently administered as in former times, therefore, by an act, they ordain that the same be duly administered in time coming, at least two times in the year, to wit: in the month of January for the winter season, and in June for the summer season, and that this their appointment be duly intimated to the ministers, that they may observe the same accordingly.

1671. Alexander Burnett, Younger.

Vol. LV., *p.* 336.

1672. Do.

,, ,, 430.

About this time, the Town Council, for behalf of the community, purchased from Sir Andrew Fletcher, factor to the laird of Pitfoddles, the lands of Gilcomstone, for the sum of £1,472 4s. 5d. sterling.

1673. Alexander Gordon. *Vol.* LV., *p.* 516.

1674. Normand Leslie. ,, ,, 602.

A prayer used before, and one used after Election, inserted in the Council's Books, may well be quoted here.

BEFORE THE ELECTION.

"O Eternal and Everlasting God, who has created man for society, in which Thou who art the God of order and hatest confusion, hast appointed some to rule and govern, and others to be governed, and for that cause has set down in Thy Word marks of such as Thou judgest proper to bear government; like as Thou of Thy great mercy hath made us to be one of the most famous and honourable Burroughs within this kingdom, and reserved to us the liberty yearly to choose our Council and Magistrates, we, therefore, beseech Thee, for the sake of Christ, seeing we are here assembled for that purpose, to be present in the midst of us, to furnish us with spiritual wisdom, and to direct our hearts in such sort, that all corrupt affections being removed, we may choose such to be of the Council and of the Magistracy for the year ensuing of our brethren, fearing God, men of knowledge, haters of avarice, men of courage and action, that all our proceedings therein may tend to Thy glory, to the welfare of the inhabitants of this Burgh, so as that we may have testimony of a good conscience before Thee. Grant us, Dear Father, these our requests, for the sake of Thy Dear Son, in whose name we pray," &c., &c.

A PRAYER AFTER THE ELECTION.

"Almighty and most merciful God, pour abundance of Thy Spirit of sanctification, wisdom, courage, and

strength, on those persons chosen by Thy providence and gracious direction, for the government of this common weal for the ensuing year, so that, however it may please Thee to correct us by Thy visitation, or spare us by Thy mercy, they may be every day directed and borne up by Thee, to go forward by Thy light and strength in every particular duty of their calling, the glory of Thy name, the comfort of the kirk and its policy, the joy of their own conscience in this life, and their eternal happiness, through Jesus Christ, in the life to come, when God shall be all in all. And this, in the name of Jesus Christ, we pray," &c., &c.

1675. David Adie.

Council Reg., Vol. LVI., *p.* 58.

About this time there was a considerable trade carried on between Holland and Aberdeen, in the plaiding and fingrans, which brought in such great sums that Mr. Bornes, an eminent merchant in Edinburgh, set up a manufactory there of the same. But, upon carrying over several packs of his make, he saw, to his infinite surprise, that the Aberdeen merchants could sell much lower than he. Meeting Alexander Farquhar, his friend and acquaintance, he asked the reason. Maister Farquhar told him that his workers got near three times as much wages as those at Aberdeen, upon which Mr. Bornes, despairing of getting men at a lower rate of wages, gave up his manufactory.

1676. Charles Dunc.

Council Reg., vol. LVI., *p.* 166.

One Maister George Pyper had raised the stocking trade in Aberdeen at this period to the highest perfection. Some four hundred people were employed by him, and he made stockings at from one to twenty shillings the pair. He also much improved the linen trade, and brought much profit to the place.

1677. Thomas Cushney.

Council Reg., vol. LVI., *p.* 277.

It has been ascertained by careful summation, that the value of the Guild Brethren's accumulations at this date was rather over £10,000 Scots. The Council—*all Guild Brethren*—have five years before founded the Hospital of this Burgh, created by Guild Brethren for decayed Brethren, and named by future benefactors indifferently—The Hospital of the Burgh—St. Thomas' Hospital—Guild Brethren's Hospital—Hospital of Aberdeen—The Hospital. There is no evidence, however, anywhere that these definitions meant other than *the Hospital which stood on Canon Clatt's ground.*

1678.	Andrew Mitchell.	*Vol.* LVI., *p.* 334.
1679.	William Robertson, Elder.	,, ,, 430.
1680.	John Seaton.	,, ,, 512.
1681.	Alexander Walker.	,, ,, 593.
1682.	George Edie.	*Vol.* LVII., *p.* 16.
1683.	Mr. George Scattonne.	,, ,, 83.
1684.	Patrick Gellie.	,, ,, 127.
1685.	Walter Robertsone.	,, ,, 187.

Aberdeen mourns with becoming solemnity, the death of Charles the Second, which event took place on the 6th February, 1685. Very shortly after, it celebrates with all due loyalty, the accession to the throne of his brother, James the Seventh. It had not long to wait for a specimen of His Majesty's arbitrary way of proceeding. On the 15th February, Lord Melford wrote to the Provost, Baillies, and Council, saying—

MOST HONOURED,

The King, having in himself the power of naming the Magistrates to all his Boroughs Royal, so oft as may be for the good of his service, does recommend to you, the present Magistrates and others of the Borough of Aberdeen, concerned in the election of Magistrates for the ensuing year, to elect and nominate Baillie George Leslie to be Provost of said Borough for the year coming. This is His Majestie's pleasure, being by his Majestie's command intimate to you.

Your humble servant,

MELFORD.

1686. The same Dean.

Council Reg., vol. LVII., *p.* 238.

Soon after the election of this year, there was sent to the Magistrates and Council an Act of His Majestie's Privy Council, appointing His Majestie's birthday, the 14th October, to be solemnized as a day of Public Thanksgiving—and that in the most solemn manner. Therefore, in order thereto, the Magistrates, according to the said act and proclamation, ordain the said 14th day of October next, to be solemnly kept by all the inhabitants of this

Burgh in the best way and manner in their power, for that effect the said proclamation is to be published the market day preceding, at the Cross, by sound of trumpet or beat of drum; that sermon be preached in Saint Nicolas Church on the said day, in the forenoon, and that the whole inhabitants repair thereto—the men in their best arms and abilziments, under their four captains and other commanders; that the King's Desk in said church be decently covered; and that, after public worship, the men under arms shall march, along with the Magistrates and Council, all along firing and praising God for the said day, to the Cross, which is to be covered in a decent manner; that musicians be thereon, and that a theatre be erected, whereupon wine is to be brought, of good quality, for congratulating His Majesty upon his birthday, and his happy accession to the throne of his ancestors; and that those under arms discharge their muskets three several times, and also the cannon belonging to the town, both on the Castlehill and Blockhouse, be likewise discharged three several times.

1687. George Cruickshank.

Council Reg., vol. LVII., *p.* 261.

At a meeting of the Town Council, it was enacted that that part of the oath administered to new entering Burgesses at their admission, relating to Popery and Quakerism, be dispensed with. This was no doubt done to curry favour with the King, who favoured the Popish religion, being himself a profound Roman Catholic. His Majesty continues to name the Council—His Grace George, Earl of Huntly, attending and presenting the list.

1688. Alexander Anderson of Fourty.

Council Reg., vol. LVII., *p.* 297.

The Earls of Errol and Marischall, and the Laird of Balquhine, or any one of them, are nominate to be present to see His Majestie's royal pleasure regularly and effectually put in execution. On the 17th December, the Laird of Balquhine attends and sees all the persons named accept of their office, and take the oath *de fideli. Nota Bene.*—There were some of these worthy members *known* to be Popish.

1689. No Name Given,

But a Dean was regularly acting.

Council Reg., vol. LVII.

Dr. George Gordon, one of the Town's Ministers, is, by a majority of votes in the Town Council, nominate to proceed to London with their loyal address to the Prince and Princess of Orange. The elections this year proceeded by poll.

1690. Thomas Mitchell.

Council Reg., vol. LVII., *p.* 357.

Elections again made by poll. Whatever his most gracious Majestie's nominations may have meant, they do not make the minutes better kept, or the record of elections more distinctly entered, for, from 1686 till 1690, the minutes are ill kept, or not kept at all.

1691. John Allardes.

Vol. LVII., *p.* 358.

1692. James Bede.

,, ,, *p.* 387.

The previous year, Baillies Moir and Robertson called the Council together, and presented to the meeting an act of His Majestie's Privy Council, ordering the Magistrates and Council to elect a new Provost, in place of John Sandilands. They accordingly do as they are bidden, and nominate and elect Walter Cochrane of Dumbreck, the present Provost.

1693. William Gellie.

Council Reg., *vol.* LVII., *p.* 419.

The Council being convened, it was thereon represented that it had been the constant practice of their predecessors to appoint the dyets of preaching to the town's ministers within the churches of the Burgh as they judged most convenient. Accordingly, agreeable to said practice, the Council, upon certain weighty considerations, judged it expedient to enact and ordain that Dr. Patrick Sibbald and Dr. William Blair should preach every Sunday by turns in the Old Church, and that Dr. George Gordon and Mr. Andrew Burnett should in like manner preach in the New Church—which dyets of preaching the Council appoints these their ministers to observe in time coming, and if they should fail in so doing, they hereby prohibit the Treasurer from paying them any part of their stipend, until they give due obedience to this Act, which is to be intimated to them by two members of the Council.

1694. Robert Jabidsone.

Council Reg., vol. LVII., *p.* 453.

A Presbyterian Kirk Session formed this year in Aberdeen, at which date there were eight Presbyterian ministers in the Synod of Aberdeen.

1695. Alexander Orem. *Vol.*, LVII., *p.* 491.

1696 Robert Cuming. ,, ,, 530.

1697. James Brown. ,, ,, 583.

Several Members of Council join in a formal complaint against Mr. John Johnstone's election as Provost. In this lengthy document, among other grave charges, they declare that he and his father-in-law, Cruickshank of Banchory, disregardful of the laws of God and the sett of the Burgh, have arranged for the future to get themselves alternately returned as Provost. The laird of Banchory has already had himself re-elected four several running years. The Lord's of Privy Council cancel Mr. Johnstone's appointment, and in December, the haill Council in full meeting, elect Alexander Walker, Provost. In 1681 he had been Dean of Guild. His daughter, Margaret, became the wife of the Rev. Colin Campbell, and thus, the mother of the famous Principal George Campbell, of whom it has been well said, that we shall in vain look over the whole of Christendom for the last eighteen hundred years, for any writer who has more completely understood the sense, and more thoroughly imbibed the spirit of the Gospel. A man of a sounder head and sounder heart than Campbell, perhaps never put pen to paper.

1698. George Cruickshank, Younger.
Vol. LVII., *p.* 670.

1699. John Leslie.
,, ,, 718.

1700. George Stiven.
,, ,, 725.

1701. James Calnach.
,, ,, 808.

King James died in September of this year.

1702. Alexander Pyper.
Vol. LVII., *p.* 840.

King William died in March this year—is succeeded by Anne, the daughter of James.

1703. Robert Stewart.
Vol. LVII., *p.* 862.

1704. George Cruickshank.
,, ,, 890.

On the twenty-seventh day of February of this year, the sacrament of the holy communion is administered to the members of the Presbyterian Church for the first time since the re-establishment in the year 1690.

1705. James Gordon.
Council Reg., *Vol.* LVIII., *p.* 17.

An act for securing the Protestant religion and Presbyterian church government, is passed into law this year.

1706. John Douglas.
Vol. LVIII., *p.* 53.

1707. William Cruden.
,, ,, 73.

The union of Scotland and England was formally ratified by the Scottish parliament, on the sixteenth of January, received the royal assent on the sixth of March, and came into actual operation on the first of May.

1708.

James Moorison.

Council Reg., vol. LVIII., *p.* 124.

Spring water brought into town, and fountains erected; and as William Lindsay, goldsmith, directed and overseed the work, he has a salary conferred upon him of £16 13s. 3d. sterling, during life, he continuing to take proper care of the same.

1709.

John Deans.

Council Reg., vol. LVIII., *p.* 165.

John Gordon, late Provost, is by the district of Burghs, to wit: Aberdeen, Montrose, Aberbrothwick, Brechin, and Bervie, chosen as member to represent them in the first British Parliament. The Town Council of Aberdeen agree to pay his charges. Accordingly, by their act of July, 1709, they appoint the Treasurer to pay to him the sum of £216 sterling, being the value of the expenses, as per account given in from October to May.

1710.

James Deans.

Council Reg., vol. LVIII., *p.* 204.

On the 23rd June, the Council appoint the Treasurer to pay Mr. John Gordon, their late representative in Parliament, £163 sterling, as his charges in attending the last session of Parliament.

1711. James Robertson.

Council Register, vol. LVIII., *p.* 244.

In the winter of the year, the General Assembly sent the Venerable Carstairs, Professor Blackwell, of Aberdeen, and another, as a deputation to London, to complain about the fasts.

1712. William Gellie.

Council Reg., vol. LVIII., *p.* 282.

An act to restore the patrons to their ancient rights of presenting ministers to churches vacant in that part of Great Britain called Scotland, is passed into law, and for one hundred and sixty years is in its operation more productive of discord in the kirk, than any one other measure of Queen Anne's reign. By its phraseology, as well as its contents, the Patronage Act was peculiarly offensive. Within a year the first seccession from the Church of Scotland is organised. Non-Jurors, Cameronians, Non-Hearers, are active—the press teems with pamphlets, the very titles of such as—"The Protestation, Apologetic Declaration, and Admonitory Vindication of a Poor, Wasted, Misrepresented Remnant of the Suffering, anti-Popish, anti-Prelate, anti-Erastian, anti-Sectarian, True Presbyterian Church in Scotland," or of Testimonies, such as the one "Against sectarian errors, heresies, and blasphemies, particularly against Arianism, Simsonianism, Socinianism, Quakerism, Deism, Burognianism, Familism, Scepticism, Arminianism, Antinomianism, Pellagianism, Campbellianism, Libertanism, Brownism, Anabaptism, Millenarianism, Whitefieldianism, Latitudinarianism, and Independency, give evidence of that pride which apes humility.

1713. James Black. *Vol.* LVIII., *p.* 341.

1714. Robert Abercrombie. ,, ,, —

The Duke of Hamilton, Ambassador to Paris, said to be there for the purpose of bringing over the heir of the house of Stuart, is killed in a duel with Lord Mohun. Both the combatants are killed. On the 1st August, "the good Queen Anne" dies.

1715. James Gordon.

Council Register, vol. LVIII., *p.* 419.

In the month of September, this year, a rebellion broke out in Scotland against his Majestie's government. On the 28th of the month when the Magistrates, according to custom, had made choice of members for the new Council, George, Earl Marischall, entered the town, with a company of horse, numbering about forty, who marched directly to the cross. There the Earl and his company were joined by a great number of disaffected inhabitants, commonly called Jacobites, among whom was William Gray, then convener of the trades. Mounting the Cross, the Earl caused a herald proclaim the Chevalier de St. George, King of Great Britain, France, and Ireland, under the name of James the Eight, King of Scotland and Third of England. After this solemnity was over, they took possession of the Town House, which prevented the Magistrates completing the elections. Some time after, by tuck of drum, the inhabitants are advertised to meet on the 29th, within the new church, and there to proceed, by a roll, to the election of Magistrates and Council, to serve the town the ensuing year. Accordingly, a very

great number assembled in the church, and there, by roll, choose men affected to the Jacobite cause. On the 17th October, a Head Court was called within the Town House, when Provost Patrick Bannerman produced a letter he had received from the Earl of Mar, then commander-in-chief of the Chevalier's forces, encamped at Perth, of date 6th current, commanding the Magistrates and Council to raise a six months' cess in full of all former cess, extending to the sum of £200 sterling, and that against the 30th instant, with certification, if they failed therein, that they would be quartered upon for the same. The Head Court, taking this into serious consideration, unanimously agree that the said sum of £200 be immediately cessed for, and paid into the hands of a collector, to be nominated by them against the 30th. On the 26th October, the Town Council being convened, it was represented that Mr. Thomas Blackwell, Mr. Colin Campbell, and Mr. Francis Melvil, three of the town's Ministers, prayed publicly in the church for King George as king of the realme, and this contrary to the orders emitted by the Earl of Mar at Perth; whereupon the Council judged it a duty incumbent on them to see the said order obeyed. They therefore appointed Thomas Shand, the Maister of Kirk and Brig Wark, to intimate to the three foresaid ministers the Earl of Mar's orders, and require them in the name of the Council to give obedience thereto on Sunday next, otherwise the Magistrates will stop them from preaching. The ministers, upon this intimation made to them, declared they could not, in duty, comply, whereupon they were stopt from preaching in their churches. Hereupon, Dr. George Garden, Dr. Alexander Burnett, and Mr. Dumbeck, who used the liturgy of the

Church of England, were settled in their churches. Dr. Blair, the fourth minister, did as he was bid, and remained. The forenamed Mr. Blackwell, Mr. Campbell, and Mr. Melvil, the Presbyterian ministers, who were now out of their churches, hired two barns within the town to perform public worship in, and there they boldly continued to conduct public worship, and to beseech God Almighty to help their lawful king, George; and this the Provost, who was a gentlemanly man, and good natured, winked at.

1716.

In April, and	Thomas Mitchell.	*Vol.* LVII., *p.* 457.
September,	William Forbes.	,, ,, 498.

In October of the previous year, the Provost, in Head Court, read the following letter, which he had received from the Commander-in-chief of the followers of the Chevalier De Saint George, the Earl of Mar, at Perth:—

GENTLEMEN,

The necessity of the King's affairs, and the safety of the country, at this juncture requiring that every good Scotsman should assist the public according to his ability; and having desired that the sum of £2000 sterling, be borrowed from gentlemen heritors, particularly from burghers, tradesmen, and others, residing within the town of Aberdeen, for the use of the King's army; for which they shall have the public credit, to be repaid with interest from the time of advance. I therefore thought it fit to acquaint you therewith, that you proportion it among them in such manner as may be most

easy for the inhabitants, and most effectual for raising the said sum. Your speedy complying therewith, will prevent further trouble.

I am, GENTLEMEN,

Yours, &c., &c.,

M A R.

The meeting came to the conclusion that it would be impossible to raise so large a sum. They therefore restrict the sum to £500, and appoint a Committee of their number to contrive the properest way for raising it, and set about doing the same, without loss of time. The Chevalier landed at Peterhead in December. He came to Aberdeen *incog.*, and dined at the house of Alexander Scott, a shipmaster in the Castlegate, proceeding in the afternoon to Fetteresso, a house of Earl Marischal's.

1717. Arthur Forbes.

Council Reg., vol. LVIII., *p.* 561.

At a Head Court, holden on the 21st January last year, the Provost produced a letter dated from Scone, containing a proclamation from the Chevalier de Saint George, commanding all noblemen, barons, heritors, and others, to repair to the camp at Perth, with their best horses, arms and accoutrements. On the motion of the Provost, the meeting agreed to raise in the town a troop of horse, and also £500 for their support. But the breaking up of the Highland army at Perth, there is reason to believe, saved the city, its men, and money.

1718. William Cruickshank.

Council Reg., vol. LVIII., *p.* 611.

The Council enact, that no person in time coming shall presume to cover any house within the burgh or suburbs, with heather, or thatching of straw, and that under penalty of fifty merks Scots, but that all houses shall be covered with slates or tyles.

1719. Daniel Farquharson.

Council Reg., vol. LVIII., *p.* 645.

Marischal Keith embarks at Hune, in March—lands at Loch Alsh about the middle of May, and soon has 1500 men encamped in the solitude of Glenshiel, ready to make another abortive effort for the Stuarts. Colonel Wightman with 1600 government troops, the Frasers, Monroes, and the Sutherland men, attack him in June—after a three hours' fight they disperse the Highlanders, and march back to Edinburgh, with 274 prisoners.

1720. William Smith. *Vol.* LVIII., *p.* 683.

1721. John Cumming. *Vol.* LIX., *p.* 2.

1722. John Middelton, Elder. ,, ,, 44.

1723. John Gordon. ,, ,, 81.

1724. Alexander Westland. ,, ,, 117.

1725. William Mowat. ,, ,, 207.

An act for appointing Commissioners of the estates of certain traitors, and of Popish recusants, and of estates given to superstitious uses, in order to raise money out of them severally for the use of the public, is not doing the work anticipated; very little of the money product of the estates sold, finds its way into the public purse.

1726. George Mowat. *Vol.* LIX., *p.* 300.

1727. William Shirres. ,, ,, 368.

In this year, the first George dies.

1728. Alexander Forbes. *Vol.* LX., *p.* 2.

1729. Alexander Livingston. ,, ,, 101.

1730. John Middleton, Jun. ,, ,, 178.

It was this year that Robert Gordon of the family of Straloch, residenter in Aberdeen, bequeathed all his substance in favour of the town, amounting to nearly eleven thousand pounds sterling, mainly for the maintenance of burghers and craftsmen's sons and grandsons. The hospital was built in 1732; it was not open for the reception of boys till 1750. Its first occupants were part of the King's troops, under the Duke of Cumberland. Since its opening, two thousand five hundred and fifty-three boys have been educated in it, and many men, eminent in letters and in the pulpit, have been teachers there. The capital stock of the hospital now amounts to about one hundred and twenty-five thousand pounds.

1731. Alexander Robertson. *Vol.* LX., *p.* 240.

1732. George Forbes. ,, ,, 296.

1733. Alexander Crombie. ,, ,, 334.

The Dean of Guild and his assessors, finding that the hour of meeting at different fairs in the county varies, recommend the Dean of Guild to lay before the Council for their approbation, and issue as advertisement, at all

the Parish Kirks, that the mercats will be proclaimed at twelve o'clock mid-day in time coming, after the first day of January next.

1734. James Strachan, Jun. *Vol.* LX., *p.* 366.

1735. James Morison, Jun. ,, ,, 394.

Two late Provosts, two present Baillies, the previous Dean, three late Baillies, and four merchants, form the Court at this date.

1736. Thomas Paull.

Council Reg., vol. LX., *p.* 438.

The Curia Gilde, finding that the Box is not in a condition to uphold the poor decayed brethren, their widows, and children, and this mainly by reason that for many years past the Burgesses have not paid in their quarterly pennies, enact that the Burgesses of Guild, from this present time, pay in their quarterly pennies, and that, with certification, that in case any Burger be deficient (who pays Scot and lot with his neighbours), that such deficients shall have no title either for themselves or their families to be settled on the Guild Box of this Burgh, when they happen to be depauperate.

1737. William Fordyce.

Council Reg., vol. LX., *p.* 491.

At Aberdeen, this first day of February, 1737, in presence of the Provost, Baillies, old and new Council of the Burgh of Aberdeen, the Dean of Guild and his assessors, taking under their consideration the uncertainty

of all human affairs, and the many *vicissitudes* and changes they are liable to, but more particularly the great hazard and uncertainty attending trade, whereby merchants very often meet with misfortunes, and many good families are reduced to great straits and want, and they and their widows and daughters left in a very destitute condition; and finding that their present provision from the Guild Box, and other funds, comes far short, and is insufficient to answer their necessities in any tolerable manner, considering the great number of burghers, their widows, and daughters; therefore, that all due care may be taken, and suitable provision made for the convenient support and maintenance of such burghers, and more particularly their poor widows and daughters, the Dean of Guild and his assessors did make an act of their court, which act was ratified by the Town Council of this burgh, and homologate, and approven by the Double Council. . . Then follows a minute and lengthy detail of the process of creation of this fund, to be called the Additional Fund. Every burgher who is in a condition to bear and pay Scot and lot and public burdens within the burgh, shall pay quarterly one shilling; or if any burgher is willing to pay in twelve pounds twelve shillings Scots, against Whitsunday next, which sum is computed to be equal to a life contribution. . . . One hundred and twenty brethren did then and there pay down their twelve pounds twelve shillings Scots—and thus began the Guild Brethren's Additional Fund.

1738. William Howat, Jun.

Council Reg., vol. LX., *p.* 566.

The law with reference to Infant Burgesses is worth quoting: "It is enacted that when Burghers' children are entered, *jure paternitatis*, before they be of age, the guinea of contribution is not to be demanded of them, but their Burghers' Acts shall bear the following clause, viz.: 'With this express condition and provision, that how soon the persons admitted attain the age of twenty-one years complete, and the Dean of Guild's Court shall find them in capacity, they are, and shall be by their acceptance hereof, bound and obliged to satisfy and pay to the Dean of Guild for the time being, one guinea for behoof of the Guild Box, or otherwise, that they shall lose the benefit of this Burgess Act, and all title and advantage competent to them thereby.'"

1739. William Davidson.

Council Reg., vol. LX., *p.* 622.

Frequently in the minute books there is this significant entry. "The absents were fyned, each of them in one shilling sterling." The Dean of Guild is also about this time much exercised with those merchants who deal in plaiding and Mearns linen, and also, in shaping out the table of bulking of goods imported.

1740. Alexander Mitchell.

Council Reg., vol. LX., *p.* 651.

The Court unanimously agree to the overtures agreed to by the Directors of the Infirmary and Work House, anent the building of them at the back of the Tolbooth and Woolmanhill, conform to a copy thereof read in Court, and agreed to by the Directors, on the 23rd November,

1739, and recommends to the Directors, if they think proper, to call for some of the principal subscribers and shew them the overture. The Dean, John Ricart of Auchnacart, James Gordon of Banchory, and James Dyce, Sen., are then named Directors for the ensuing year, of the Infirmary and Work House. The Dean, Provost Cruickshank, Provost Chalmers, B. Mowat, and Andrew Logie, are appointed a committee to prepare a proper representation to the Justices of the Peace anent the regulation of the Stockin, and recommends to the Dean of Guild to cause paper patterns to be distribute among the stampers.

1741. John Burnett of Elrick.

Council Reg., Vol. LXI., *p.* 3.

Twenty pounds paid out of the Guild Wine Fund for the maintenance of the Work House this year. The ordinary Sederunt of the Court to be each Saturday at twelve o'clock noon.

1742. Andrew Logie.

Council Reg., vol. LXI., *p.* 84.

James Strachan, the Dean of Guild's officer, is seriously reprimanded for his negligence in allowing merchants to expose for sale, and sell, stockins that are only two fold, and are not stamped, and James is warned that he will lose his office if he be not more diligent in future, in seizing and bringing to the Dean of Guild all such stockins so found. He is further instructed to be present at every Court Meeting on Saturday, to answer any queries.

1743. William Middleton.

Council Reg., vol. LXI., *p.* 122.

About this time, the Dean of Guild having considered a complaint by James Strachan, his officer, against Jean Brew and Barbara Garden, in Belhelvie, and Margaret Forsyth, in Parkhill, found it proven by their confession, that they had bought—the one of them, forty-six pairs of stockins unstamped, whereof twenty pairs were also short in dimensions, and the other forty-three pairs of stockins unstampt, whereof two pairs of them were short in dimensions. Barbara Garden had bought twenty-eight pairs stockins unstampt, and six pairs of them were short in dimensions. They are all fined, and the stockins short in dimensions are confiscat.

1744. William Copland.

Council Reg., vol. LXI., *p.* 175.

Harvest began very soon this year, and there was a very great crop. On the 8th September it commenced to rain, and rained heavily every day for six weeks, so that all the crop was spoiled.

1745. No Election.

Last Dean and Assessors acting.

In August, 1745, the prince landed in Scotland, and was soon after joined by some of the Highland Chiefs. General Cope marched in quest of them to Inverness, by Highland Road, and returned to Aberdeen on the 11th of September, encamped on the Dove Cot Brae till Sunday the 15th, when he shipped all his men on board of trans-

ports, and landed them the Thursday after at Dunbar. Before sailing, he applied to the Magistrates desiring that they would deliver to him the town's cannon, and such small arms as are in their possession, for which he should be accountable when the rebellion was over. The Magistrates complied, and cannons and small-arms were sent on board the ships with the troops, and were afterwards accounted for to the town by the Government. Lord Lewis Gordon had been nominated by "the Prince," governor of Aberdeen. His mother's factor, John Hamilton, with a large company of Strathbogie men, had stopped the elections, and Lord Lewis, with his depute, William Moir of Lonmay, ruled.

1746.

In July, and	George Gordon, Jun.	*Vol.* LXI., *p.* 220.
In September,	James Black, Jun.	,, ,, 238.

On the 25th September, 1745, some of the King's troops, under the command of H.R.H. the Duke of Cumberland, the King's son, arrived in town, and the Duke himself in a few days after, the weather then proving bad, *he staid in Aberdeen till the 8th April.* During his residence he appointed twelve of the principal burghers to act as governors, in managing the public affairs, until the rebellion should be stopped. On the 18th April, the governors received an express, by which they were acquainted that a battle had been fought between the two armies near Culloden House. The Duke's army had completely routed that of the Prince; hereupon there was great rejoicing in the town—the bells tolled two whole days. The rebellion being suppressed and peace

restored, an order from his Majestie's Privy Council came, appointing the old and new Council that were in being in the burgh at Michaelmas last, and were then stopped at the elections by the rebels, to proceed now to the choice of Magistrates on the 9th of July. The elections were accordingly made. After the Council was settled, a handsome gold box was made, in which they put a Burgess' ticket for His Royal Highness the Duke of Cumberland. These the Council transmitted to Mr. John Maul, the town's Member of Parliament, to be by him delivered. It is said that on receiving them the Duke expressed a very great regard for Aberdeen.

1747. George Gordon, Jun.

Council Reg., vol. LXI., *p.* 238.

The hail members of court agree that they shall duly attend this court, when personally warned before eleven o'clock forenoon, and in case they shall not attend personally by twelve o'clock, or before the bell stop, they shall pay each of them one shilling sterling, unless they can give a responsible excuse, satisfactory to the Council.

1748. Alexander Osborn.

Council Reg., vol. LXI., *p.* 355.

A complaint given in against Alexander Thomson, cooper in Old Aberdeen, for making two lippie cogs short of the measure—one for Peter Milne, in Brownhillocks, the other for ane Gordon in Kingsford, and the said Alex. Thomson being sworn, deponed, that he had orders from the said Milne and Gordon, to make the cogs one-fourth of the meal peck, and this is truth, as he shall answer to

God—declares further, that he cannot write. The cogs being looked to, were found to be meal measure, and not for oats or barley. Alexander Thomson was thereupon dismissed from the complaint.

Elspet Hector, Anne Jeans, Margaret Duncan, Jean Nicolson, and many sundrie other women, are proven guiltie of offering for sale stockins, stamped by the stamper of Old Aberdeen, short of dimensions. Stockins confiscat, and the women fined.

1749. James Ligertwood.

Council Reg., vol. LXI., *p.* 415.

The Court agree that stockin stamps for the following places:—Ellon, Cruden, Old Deer, Strichen, Turreff, Auchterles, Tarves, Old Meldrum, Inverury, Old Rain, Monimusk, Alford, Tarland, Kincardin, Banchory, Fintray, Foveran, Old Aberdeen, Aberdeen, shal be made.

Many of these stamps are still in being, a print of one is here given:

Cirsten Mouat, for offerin to sell a pair of stockins with mended holes and different worsted, has her stockens confiscat.

1750. John Dingwall.

Council Reg., vol. LXI., *p.* 490.

The Court are of opinion, in consideration of the value of the money and other reasons, that none should be found qualified for being Burgess of Guild, unless they have two hundred pounds sterling of stock. Recommends the Dean of Guild to get the Council's sanction and approbation. Before this is got, the Court again meets, and considering that Maltsellers, Mealsellers, and Hucksters, have not two hundred pounds of stock, they agree to request the Council to licence such to trade for their life time, in maltmaking, mealselling, and other Scots goods (except steple goods), for a composition of fifty pounds Scots money. But neither they so licensed, nor their wives, nor children, have any Guildry privileges; if they afterwards are found qualified to be received as Burgesses, the fifty pounds to be allowed in their composition payment.

1751. Adam Duff.

Council Register, vol. LXI., *p.* 569.

It was at this time that the Council made an agreement with one Mr. Willie, a mason from Edinburgh, to undertake the rebuilding of the Old Church, now called the West Church, for which they were to pay him the sum of four thousand pounds sterling, he obliging himself after the same was built, to fill it properly with lofts

and seats, and also put in a handsome pulpit; only the town at its own expense will lead the roof, when Mr. Willie has made the church ready to receive the same. A large square at the Cross, opposite the Town House, is ordered to be pavemented for the gentlemen of the town to walk on by way of exchange. The Plain Stanes, as this "pavemented square" was called, long continued to be the "place where merchants most did congregate" in Aberdeen. On those same Plain Stane steps the fish-wives with well filled creels of Finnans, Partans, Dulse, and Badderlocks, made good their "sittin'" for many a year.

1752. John Duncan. *Vol.* LXI., *p.* 650.

1753. Robert Fordyce. ,, LXII., *p.* 5.

1754. James Jopp. ,, ,, 42.

1755. Andrew Robertson, Younger, of Pitmedden. ,, ,, 94.

It is agreed that the members of the Dean of Guild Court shall meet on Wednesday every week, at three o'clock afternoon; and in order that members may the more punctually attend every meeting, they have consigned in Clerk Thomson's hands, twenty shillings sterling each, out of which they are to forfeit one shilling sterling for each time they shall be absent from court ten minutes after the hour.

1756. William Angus.

Council Reg., vol. LXII., *p.* 142.

In this year the Town Council began first to feu out their lands in perpetual feus; with what result to the town's exchequer it needs not to tell.

1757. Alexander Cushnie.

Council Reg., vol. LXII., *p.* 177.

The Denburn is this year built on both sides, from the Well of Spa to the Bow Brig, and cascades made in it all the way.

1758. John Copland.

Council Reg., vol. LXII., *p.* 622.

The Dean of Guild is recommended to prosecute Thomas Duncan, merchant, for selling hay at the new weight of twenty pounds English for the stone, in place of the old weight, which is the usual practice, and to get the Magistrates to settle a higher standard for the weight of hay.

1759. Francis Leys.

Vol. LXII., *p.* 266.

1760. John Farquhar.

,, ,, 292.

The Court recommends the Dean of Gild to take particular inspection of the mercates and all vivers sold therein, and recommends Archibald Campbell, Alexander Wylie, James McGee, James Dyce, James Shirras, and George Dun Cook, to go along with the Dean of Gild and visite all the fleshers in the mercate, and also recommends to the Dean of Gild to examine the weight and quality of all baked bread.

1761. **Alexander Hadden.**

Council Reg., vol. LXII., *p.* 319.

The Dean of Gild and his assessors agree to give thirty pounds sterling, in premium, for improved worsted stockin manufacture. A committee of manufacturers assist. The county is divided into seventy districts; distinct rules for judging the makers are issued, and, lastly, we are informed that the makers' names, and to what parish they belong, wrote on a piece of paper, shall be sewed within the head of one of the stockins. Thirty-two pounds ten shillings is spent on this praiseworthy purpose.

1762. **John Abercrombie.**

Council Reg., vol. LXII., *p.* 346.

The Court reports that they find John Frost, Robert Lamb, John Allan, James Black, jun., William Cushney, George Fowler, James Mosclay, and Alexander Gordon, qualified to be Burgesses of Guild, and Joseph Donald qualified to be *a simple Burgess*, and they do report accordingly, and recommend to the Council that they be admitted.

1763. **Peter Cushnie.**

Council Reg., vol. LXII., *p.* 365.

A committee is specially named for the purpose of considering and reporting on the proper regulations for the lighterage of goods to and from ships in the harbour, and the workmen and labourers duty and wages.

1764. **Alexander Gordon.**

Council Reg., vol. LXIII., *p.* 23.

The marginal notes on the different cases of complaints brought before the court about this date, are couched in judiciously brief terms: "*Confess*," "*deny*," "*explain*," "*wait*," "*refuse*," and so on.

1765. **Daniel Cargill.**

Council Reg., vol. XLIII., *p.* 39.

On the 19th February, the Provost sends to the Lords of Police at Edinburgh, a statement of different weights used in Aberdeen, compared together, and shewing how far each weight exceeds or falls short of the ancient legal standard of Scotland. William Young, sen., merchant, drew up the statement.

1766. **William Young.**

Council Reg., vol. LXIII., *p.* 61.

The Court agreed that hemp seed and lint seed should be sold by the Linlithgow barley measure. This same to be advertised—the *Aberdeen Journal* being now a recognised medium, fully more potential than by the "striak of the suesch."

1767. **George Mar.** *Vol.* LXIII., *p.* 86.

1768. **James Allardyce.** ,, ,, 112.

The Court appointed intimation to be made to all merchants and others to gett their weights adjusted by Maister Forbes, keeper of the Standard; and in case any insufficient weights or measures be found in their custody, after the first day of January next, they shall be prosecuted, and the owners of them punished.

1769. John Abercrombie, Jun.

Council Reg., vol. LXIII., *p.* 136.

The Dean of Guild requested by his Court to get the Magistrates to frame a scale of charge for payment of the workmen, or shore porters as they are called, against whom complaints of overcharge have of late been made.

1770. William Forbes.

Council Reg., vol. XLIII., *p.* 163.

In this year, part of the garden ground of the Guild Brethren's Hospital, standing on Canon Clatt's ground in the Correction Wynd, is given off for the purpose of widening the public street, for which the town paid twenty-five pounds. The Hospital and remainder of the ground were then feued at a ground annual of seventeen pounds fourteen shillings, and the furniture sold for nineteen pounds and ninepence. About the same time, the house of the gardener of Robert Gordon's Hospital, was purchased for two hundred and twenty pounds, and fitted up for a new Guild Brethren's Hospital. Sixteen years after, there being but one inmate, this Hospital is sold by public roup for two hundred and four pounds, fifteen shillings, and a certain sum given this "decayit brether," with which to find board and lodging for himself.

1771. John Dingwall, Jun.

Council Reg., vol. LXIII., *p.* 189.

Instead of the entrants Burghers money qualification of two hundred pounds worth of gear, and a good moral character being upon soul and conscience declared, one

hundred and fifty, and the good character with the trading, watching, warding, and certification of two brither burghers, are held, at this date, sufficient.

1772. William Rennie.

Vol. LXIII., *p.* 204.

1773. John Auldjo of Portlethen.

Vol. LXIV., *p.* 1.

1774. William Black.

,, ,, 95.

The Dean of Guild having laid before the meeting an accompt of the sums necessary to be laid upon the inhabitants for keeping the streets in repair, lighting the streets, and defraying the expense of supplying the inhabitants with water, also an estimate of the probable cost of a night watch; finds, that one shilling a pound of an assessment on the house rents will be sufficient for the first, and recommends that the night watch be in the meantime left over.

1775. James Young, Jun.

Council Reg., *vol.* LXIV., *p.* 65.

The Court, at this date, see reason to do away with the attestation of the circumstances of applicants for admission to the Guildry, abolish it, and instead, enact that every entering Burgess shall become bound that neither he, nor his family, shall be burdensome to the town for the space of ten years after his admission.

1776. George Adam.

Vol. LXIV., *p.* 88.

1777. James Hault.

,, ,, 108.

1778. William Ritchie, *Vol.* LXIV., *p.* 109.

1779. James Young, Jun. ,, ,, 175.

The Court having taken into consideration, that of late several persons who had been admitted Gratis Burgesses in the ordinary form, without payment of any dues, or composition, or taking the usual Burgess' oath, have commenced traders, and carry on merchandise in town to the great prejudice of other Burgesses, who at the time of their admission paid the ordinary composition and other dues for their freedom, and also are obliged to take the usual Burgess' oath. And further, considering that many of those Gratis Burgesses reside in the country, as well as in the town, do claim an exemption from double imposts and customs to which strangers are liable, to the great detriment of the town's revenue; they are therefore unanimously of opinion that some effectual measure should speedily be adopted for preventing and redressing these injuries and grievances, by hereafter restricting and limiting both the number, and the privileges of Gratis Burgesses; and particularly, that it should be considered how far any of them can properly be elected a member of the Town Council, or have a vote in the management and disposal of any branch of the town's funds. And the court recommend the Dean to lay this matter, with their opinion thereupon, before the first meeting of Council, for their deliberation.

"Political infection spreads itself through all ranks of men, from the statesman in the secret, to the conjecturing cobbler, and, bating some immaterial slips in points of geography and calculation, a similarity of

sentiment and reason is to be found in every class of the people. The unfortunate Burgoyne—the despised Keppel—the Brave Rodney—Blockades—Batteries—Broadsides, are terms as familar to the Board of Taylors as to the Board of Ordinance. And happy it is for the British public, that the liberty of a free investigation into these matters is allowed them; for, it supplies in their imagination, the want of more valuable liberties of which they are deprived."

1780. John Donald. *Vol.* LXIV., *p.* 207.

1781. Andrew Fowler. ,, ,, 226.

The Court is unanimously of opinion that the multiplying of Coast Bonds and Coquets, is a very great grievance, and that it would be highly expedient to procure a redress in regard to them. They are also of opinion that it would be expedient to have an equitable table of Custom House fees for Scotland, established by legal authority.

1782. Alexander Black.

Council Reg., vol. LXV., *p.* 4.

The Dean of Guild and his assessors, in an exhaustive paper, published in the *Aberdeen Journal*, give reasons in support of the Bill for improving the Scots Bankrupt Laws, and recommend, that the Provost and Magistrates do write Mr. Drummond, the borough member, to give his countenance and support to the Bill to be brought in by the Committee of Convention for this purpose.

1783. William Hoir.

Council Reg., vol. LXV., *p.* 34.

The meeting recommend to the Dean, and Mr. Auldjo, the Treasurer, to suggest to the Magistrates the propriety, and *even necessity*, of enforcing the regulations for keeping the streets of the town clean, and free of dung; it has been remarked for sometime, that the streets in general have been exceeding nasty and offensive.

1784. George Auldjo.

Council Reg., vol. LXV., *p.* 58.

The workmen on the shore, and the metters of coal, lime, and other articles, being frequently complained upon for negligence, the Court request the Dean of Guild to bring this matter under notice of the Magistrates.

1785. James Allardyce.

Council Reg., vol. LXV., *p.* 99.

It being represented to the Court that the process lately agitate in the Court of Session between the Magistrates and Town Council, and certain traders, who brought a process of reduction of the Act of Council of 1779, raising the composition and other dues, payable by entering Burgesses of Guild, was now finally determined, and the Magistrates and Council assolized therefrom. And it being further represented, that it was generally complained among the merchant Burgesses that a great number of unfree traders encroached upon the privileges of the Guildry, by carrying on trade and merchandise

within the burgh, without paying for their freedom; therefore the court recommend to the Dean of Guild to lay the matter before the Magistrates for their consideration.

1786.	Andrew Allardyce.	*Vol.* LXV., *p.* 150.
1787.	James Hadden.	,, ,, 194.
1788.	George Moir.	,, LXVI., *p.* 15.
1789.	William Shepherd.	,, ,, 55.
1790.	George Moir.	,, ,, 118.

The Court being informed that of late several Burgesses have been harassed by the tacksman of the harbour dues, by new and extravagant charges, and by vexatious and oppressive means used to compel payment, resolve that it is necessary that some effectual measures be at once taken to put a stop to such improper conduct; that it appears evident to them that the right of deciding all disputes between the tacksman and the citizens is by law vested in the Magistrates; notwithstanding of which the tacksman has instituted certain oppressive actions under the Act of Parliament in the supreme courts, to the great loss and prejudice of the citizens and the trade of the place, and that it is incumbent on this court to recommend in the most earnest manner to the Magistrates and Council, as the only proper Trustees in whom the execution of the act is vested, to take such measures as appears proper to them, not only to put a stop to such vexatious and oppressive prosecutions in future, but to do what the law authorises them to do, to put a stop to

these actions already raised. The Court, understanding that the Convener Court has executed Summons of Declarator against the Magistrates and Council, recommend that particular attention be paid to that process, and all care taken to protect the privileges of the Guildry.

1791. James Hadden.

Council Reg., vol. LXVI., *p.* 162.

Minute after minute filled with the Court's deliberation, with reference to a Police Bill—one recently had for Glasgow, is seemingly used as a model. At length, at a meeting of the Court, on the 18th April of this year, a full report on the whole subject of water supply, improvement and streets and lanes, broadening and better lighting them, freeing them from fulzie, &c., and erecting a bridewell or house of correction, is submitted to the Magistrates.

1792. Thomas Leys.

Council Reg., vol. LXVI., *p.* 218.

The Court having taken under their consideration the report of a committee of the Dean of Guild Court, concerning a Police Bill, proposed to be obtained for the improvement and extension of the public police of this city, printed and published by direction of the Town Council, for the information of the citizens, they are unanimously of opinion that the public police of this city cannot be substantially and effectually extended without the aid and benefit of a public law, and Act of Parliament, and particularly, the necessary additional supply of fresh water for the service of the inhabitants; and the Court,

considering that no effectual measures have been yet taken in this business, remit to the Dean of Guild, Provost Young, Baillie Copland, Baillie Shepherd, Messrs. Thomas Bannerman, Alexander Garioch, and Alexander Brebner, or any three of them, as a committee, to take under consideration the foresaid printed report. The Court also remit to the same committee, and quorum of them, to consider of the expiry of the Act of Parliament, at present subsisting for the improvement of the Harbour of Aberdeen, and how far it may be necessary and expedient to apply for an extension of the endurance of that Act, and recommend to the above committee to report to the Court the result of their deliberations on both these subjects.

1793. Alexander Yore.

Vol. LXVI., *p.* 253.

1794. Thomas Bannerman.

Vol., LXVII., *p.* 36.

The Police and Harbour Bills receive full attention at repeated meetings of the Guild Court, and are frequently and fully reported on. In concluding a report on the Harbour Act, with the suggestion of a renewal of the existing acts for twenty-one years, we find that when a stranger vessel brings a cargo for sale, and which is purchased in wholesale by a Burgess, single dues only should be enacted. It is a benefit to the port to encourage these; as for instance, when a Norwegian brings a cargo of timber he lays out the produce in goods from hence.

Mr. Skene Keith, the minister of Keithhall, sends in a letter containing observations relative to the weights

and measures at present used within this town and county.

1795. Alexander Brebner.

Council Reg., vol. LXVII., *p.* 83.

An account of the weights and measures used in Aberdeen, with some observations thereanent, which the Dean proposes to be printed and circulated in the town and county, is at this date printed and circulated for the information of all concerned, with a request that any remarks thereon may be lodged at the Town Clerk's Chambers, on or before the first day of May next.

1796. Thomas Leys.

Council Reg., vol. LXVII., *p.* 124.

The collector and comptroller having carefully examined the table of fees proposed to be charged at the Custom-house here, and compared the fees there stated with those paid at Bo'ness, Dundee, Leith, and Montrose, and having fully deliberated on the subject, are of opinion that the fees stated will be a fair allowance to the different officers of Customs for the sundry articles of business done, and despatches granted at this port. Table adopted, and for many years used.

1797. Alexander More.

Council Reg., vol. LXVII., *p.* 156.

The table for bulking goods at the harbour, table for shore and other dues, also the table of Weigh House and Park House dues, unanimously approved of, and the Dean is requested to signify this approbation to the first meeting of the Town Council.

1798.	Gabin Hadden.	*Vol.* LXVII., *p.* 187.
1799.	Alexander More.	,, ,, 223.
1800.	George Sim.	*Vol.* LXVIII., *p.* 15.
1801.	Alexander More.	,, ,, 59.
1802.	Alexander Brebner.	,, ,, 93.
1803.	John Young.	,, ,, 140.

The Court, taking under their consideration the present scarcity and bad quality of the silver specie in this part of the country, and sensible of the relief formerly obtained on a similar occasion, by the circulation of bank notes of five shillings each, and being informed that an application has been made by the city of Edinburgh for a temporary liberty to the Royal Bank of Scotland of circulating such notes, until an Act of Parliament is obtained for that purpose, do therefore recommend to the Dean of Guild to request, in name of the meeting, that the honourable the Magistrates and Council will be pleased to make an immediate application, by means of their representative in Parliament, for permission to the two banking company's established in Aberdeen, to issue notes of five shillings, in the same manner as may be granted to the Royal Bank of Scotland.

1804.	Gabin Hadden.	*Vol.* LXVIII., *p.* 167.
1805.	Alexander More.	,, ,, 209.

The Court having taken under consideration the fatal accidents which have of late been occasioned by the

injudicious manner of digging for well springs, are of opinion, that, in order to prevent the calamitous consequences of such improper conduct in future, every person who may have occasion to carry on similar operations should be ordained before they open, or give directions for opening ground for the purpose, within any part of the city and its liberties, to give intimation, at least forty-eight hours before such operations is intended to be begun, to the Magistrates, in order that they may issue the necessary directions for preventing harm, not only to the persons immediately concerned in the execution of the work, but to all others who may have occasion to pass near; and recommend to the Dean of Guild to lay a copy of this minute before the Town Council for their consideration.

1806. Alexander Fraser.

Council Reg., vol. LXVIII., *p.* 250.

The coal and lime metsters have minute and carefully prepared rules and rates of charge prepared and issued for them by the Court. The Dean of Guild drew attention to the Register of Burgesses, and pointed out that several children of members of Council who had been admitted Burgesses when their fathers were on the Council, had been omitted to be engrossed on the record, which may at an after period occasion doubts respecting the fact of their admission. The Court thereupon appoints their clerk to make a proper search, and draw up a list of all such admissions as may have been omitted to be recorded in the Register at the proper time, and report the same to the Court at its next meeting for their sanction and approval.

1807. James Young, Jun. *Vol.* LXIX., *p.* 37.

1808. Gabin Gadden. ,, ,, 77.

In this year, the old Guild Brethren's Hospital and garden ground annual of seventeen pounds fourteen shillings, is redeemed for three hundred and fifty-four pounds.

1809. Alexander Virie.

Council Reg., vol. LXIX., *p.* 117.

In obedience to the instructions given, the clerk produced to the Court a list of twenty-three Infant Burgesses, whose names had been omitted to be engrossed in the public record as usual. The Court are of opinion that the names contained in said list, should be immediately inserted in the general record of Burgesses, stating the periods when they were respectively admitted. This is accordingly done, and of that list of names then entered, the stalwart laird of Easter Skene, first on the list, alone remains. His date of entry is 1802.

1810. George Hogarth, Jun. *Vol.* LXIX., *p.* 173.

1811. Alexander Virie. ,, ,, 207.

1812. Alexander Fraser. ,, ,, 235.

The quality and measurement of English coals very generally complained about, and remied sought. The Court proposes that the method of sale shall be by measure and not by weight. The Dean writes to the Chamberlain of the City of London, requesting to be

particularly informed as to the mode of selling coals in that city, but gets no answer.

1813. George Storey.

Council Reg., vol. LXX., *p.* 9.

The Dean reported that he had got a measure for English coals prepared, which he thinks will amend the evil complained of. A committee named to take trial of said measure. Committee report that they have carefully examined and made trial thereof; that the measure contains fifty-two Aberdeen pints of water; that this measure, when filled with good Sunderland or Newcastle coals, contains a quantity thereof which will weigh the nearest to nine stones Amsterdam; but that when filled with the coal of an inferior quality, very generally imported into the harbour, it will contain about nine and a-half stones. The committee therefore have no hesitation in recommending to the Court the adoption of this measure, as being one fair and equitable between buyers and sellers, and as being by its use most likely to cause importation here of a better class of coals. Measure adopted.

1814. George Thomson.

Council Reg., vol. LXX., *p.* 39.

The Dean of Guild states to the Court his reasons for acquiescing in raising the rate of payments of entering Burgesses. Great depreciation has taken place in the value of money since 1779, the year in which the present dues were established. The demands on the funds have largely increased. For the last twenty years

the Incorporated Trades have from time to time greatly augmented their entry monies, so much so, that an extranean craftsman must now pay for his freedom more than thrice as much as is charged from a Burgess of Guild, while the latter enjoys several advantages, either in preference to or in total exclusion of the former. The Court agree with the Dean, and steps are forthwith taken in concert with the Town Council, to raise the rate. Meanwhile the Dean is requested to press upon the Council the propriety of allocating to the funds destined for relief, a somewhat larger proportion of the composition payments than at present.

1815. William Johnstone.

Council Reg., vol. LXX.

From the fourteenth September, 1814, to the thirty-first October, 1815, two hundred and thirteen gentlemen become Guild Brethren *for an obvious reason.*

1816. William Lead.

Council Reg., vol. LXX., *p.* 77.

The value at this date of the whole of the Guild Brethren's accumulated charitable funds is a little over twenty thousand pounds.

1817. Lieutenant Dingwall Fordyce.

Council Reg., vol. LXX., *p.* 153.

Mr. Fordyce, elected at Michaelmas, 1817, having declined accepting office, no Guild Court was or could be held until after Michaelmas, 1818.

1818. **Alexander Brown.**

Council Reg., vol. LXX., *p.* 173.

A list of unfree traders within the burgh having been laid before the meeting, they gave instructions to the Dean of Guild's officer to call upon them, and to require such as are qualified to enter Burgesses of Guild, and in case they should decline or fail to comply with this requisition, and persist in encroaching upon the privileges of the Burgesses, the meeting desire the Procurator-Fiscal to be instructed to proceed against them.

1819. **Gabin Hadden.**

Council Reg., vol. LXX., *p.* 212.

This day, the Dean of Guild reported that he had recently inspected the bread manufactured for sale by the bakers of this city, and the whole of the fleshers' weights; and that the bread was in general five per cent. above weight. He makes no remarks on the quality. The fleshers' weights, with some few exceptions, were found correct.

1820. **Alexander Duthie, Jun.**

Council Reg., vol. LXX., *p.* 231.

Mr. Alexander Cadenhead, advocate, Procurator-Fiscal of this city, as well as of the Dean of Guild Court, and of all other courts, and also Admiral Depute of the bounds betwixt Kinneff and Ythan mouth, is confirmed by minute in his appointment. He is instructed to put the law in force against unfree traders.

1821. James Grebner.

Council Reg., vol. LXXI., *p.* 1.

The Dean of Guild laid before the Court a list of the unfree traders who were lately convened before the Magistrates at his instance, with concurrence of the Procurator-Fiscal, and who have been laid under fines of £5 5s. each, besides expenses, for trading within the burgh without paying any sum for their freedom, to the prejudice of the Burgesses of Guild. His lordship also informed the Court that it had been agreed to allow the different individuals upon whom these fines had been imposed, the amount thereof, in part payment of their compositions, provided they come forward and pass within a certain period; and of all which the court approve.

1822. William Johnstone.

Council Reg., vol. LXXI., *p.* 18.

The meeting, understanding that the candlemakers in this burgh have lately entered into a resolution to sell their candles to the public by the pound of sixteen ounces, instead of the Dutch or Amsterdam pound of seventeen and a-half ounces, which has been the uniform standard weight of that article from time immemorial, they recommend to the Dean of Guild to inquire into this matter, and endeavour to ascertain whether such an alteration of the ancient standard is agreeable to law, or can be taken cognisance of by this or any other court.

1823. Robert Duthie.

Council Reg., vol. LXXI., *p.* 36.

There was laid before the meeting a representation from sundry Burgesses, complaining that certain of the workmen had recently commenced the trade of dealing in London porter, to the great injury of the freemen of the burgh, regular dealers in that article. Procurator-Fiscal instructed to take such measures as in the circumstances of the case he may see proper.

1824. George Thomson. *Vol.* LXXI., *p.* 76.

1825. John Colbyte. ,, ,, 177.

The Dean of Guild stated to the Court that the models of the new imperial weights and measures, proved in exchequer in London, had lately been received for the use of the town and county of Aberdeen, and were deposited with the Dean of Guild's officer, to be had recourse to when necessary; but, as those models would be liable to injury, if used for ordinary purposes, it had been deemed advisable to procure duplicates for common use, and the same had been prepared accordingly: which, being considered by the Court, they appoint a committee to act with the Dean, in having the duplicate compared with the standards, and when so compared and adopted, the standards are to be placed in some proper place in the Dean of Guild's office, and the duplicates of the measures, including the imperial yard measure standard, to be under the charge of the Dean of Guild's officer; the weights to be under the charge of Messrs. John Blaikie & Sons. The list of these weights and measures is worth giving: There was one brass weight of fifty-six pounds, one of twenty-eight, one of fourteen, one of seven, one of

four, one of two, one of one pound, and one of eight ounces, one of four, one of two, one of one ounce; one weight of eight drachms; one of four, one of two, one of one, and one of half a drachm; all of sixteen ounces avoirdupois. The measures were:—One bushel, one half bushel, one peck, one gallon, one half gallon, one quarter gallon, one pint, one half pint, one gill, one half gill; a yard measure, a beam of thirty-four inches, one of sixteen inches, and another of nine and one-quarter inches, besides a pair of scales of thirteen and a-half inches, another of six, and another of four, for all which the Dean grants receipt.

1826. Alexander Duncan.

Council Reg., vol. LXXI., *p.* 173.

A printed notification of the imperial weights and measures is issued, containing full details of the quantities to be given by seller and accepted by buyer of meal, sids, oats, wheat, bear, pease, rye, &c.; potatoes, fruit, lime, coals, butcher meat, cheese, butter, tallow, feathers, straw, wool, spirits, porter, ale, milk, &c., &c.

For many years these measures and weights are compelled to be used; and the Dean of Guild's officer brought up sharply for punishment all found using other than these imperial weights and measures.

At the present time, by some strange laxity, all classes are largely injured in the measurement of fluids, milk particularly. The vendors in and around Aberdeen sell by what they call "the old measure," and no buyer has the means of testing what that is.

1827. Robert Duthie.

Council Reg., vol. LXXI., *p.* 219.

Many applicants for admission are refused, because they do not reside within the burgh or freedom, or do not carry on trade there.

1828. Robert Catto. *Vol.* LXXII., *p.* 11.

1829. Andrew Duncan. ,, ,, 42.

1830. Robert Catto. ,, ,, 90.

The Court petition Parliament in favour of the Bill to enable a railway to be constructed between Glasgow and Edinburgh, and the Port of Leith; also, earnestly requests the Secretary of the General Post Office to take measures to overcome the inconvenience of the delivery of letters in Aberdeen.

1831. Robert Duthie. *Vol.* LXXII., *p.* 131.

1832. George Lyall. ,, ,, 177.

From the date of the election of Dean Lyall, to the date of the expiry of the tenure of office of Dean Bannerman, much fierce contending takes place in the Court, and among the brethren in public meeting assembled. Party political feeling is very manifestly marked on the many excellent minutes, reports and pamphlets issued by both sides. To-day easily we can put our fingers on the spots where the wish, father to the thought, caused some of these writers to twist isolated facts to make fit with foregone conclusions, or fashionable liberal utterances,

disregardful alike of common sense, and the plain wording of old deeds. It would serve no good end to pick holes in those ancient doublets; let us rather shew that a more sweeping Reform Bill than that of 1833 has found us, Town Council and Guildry, more inclined to make for the good of the community a fair concession. Neither party would then yield—mistrust crept in—and for forty years the good work has been hindered.

1833. Thomas Lanterman.

Minute Book of Guild.

Instead of a weary transcript of the many passages of arms between the Dean and the Court, and the Magistrates and Council, spread over the pages of many minute books of this date, and, as answer to some of the fundamental errors committed by the dominant party, the following quotation from a competent authority is made: "The 'Box' of the ancient Scottish Guilds corresponds with the French *Caisse*, the German *Kasse*, which are used in the like sense. The compulsory friendly funds of the Germans are termed *Zwangs-kassen* — compulsory boxes or chests." The *Box* of the Guildry—the Additional Fund to this *Box*—all the careful scrapings of four centuries, and the kindly gifts of many burghers, yield at this date about eleven hundred a year. The records show how very watchful the Deans and the assessors were over the distribution of the contents of this Box, and all belonging to it.

1834. Alexander Forbes.

Minute Book of Guild.

That the Guild Brethren elect the Dean, that the meetings be held in the Town Hall, that reporters from all the Aberdeen papers be admitted, and a crowd of other such like important memoranda lie before us at this time.

1835. Neil Smith, Jun.

Minute Book of Guild.

Five pounds yearly seems about all that at this time could be given to a decayed brother or his widow, and half as much to a daughter.

1836. Neil Smith, Jun.

Minute Book of Guild.

A calm judgment, well balanced intelligence, trained powers, and thorough honesty, enabled Dean Neil Smith to pass through the trying ordeal of these two years. To all the laboured statements of the Town Council papers he gave full replies. He entered on defence against their action of declarator. The cost of the defence had to be met. Would forty brethren stand by him in meeting these costs, he asked? On the twenty-first day of October, 1837, he called a general meeting of Guild Brethren; and in no mistakeable terms they gave the answer, and instruct him "to withdraw the defence entered for the Guildry." A little of the Dean's courage would have saved much money, and prevented the unseemly wrangling of five and thirty years.

1837. Peter Williamson.

Minute Book of Guild.

1838. Leslie Clark.

Minute Book of Guild.

From the funds of the Guild Brethren the whole costs are taken of the decreet pronounced by the Lords of Council and Session in the action of declarator at the instance of the Magistrates and Council, against the Burgesses of Guild.

1839. Peter Williamson.

Minute Book of Guild.

1840. George Thompson, Jun.

Minute Book of Guild.

1841. George Thompson, Jun.

Minute Book of Guild.

Before proceeding to the special business of this general meeting of the Burgesses, the election of a Dean, the retiring Dean took the opportunity of congratulating the Brethren on the prosperous condition of their funds.

1842. James L. M'Combie.

Minute Book of Guild.

At a meeting of the Guildry, after much discussion, it is unanimously agreed that this meeting, unwilling to throw any obstacle in the way of a public improvement so important and so desirable as the Harbour Works, agree to the expunging of the clause in the proposed Harbour Bill, levying what is called 'double dues' on non-freemen, solely as a matter of expediency under existing circumstances, with the distinct under-

standing that in doing so they are not yielding to any claim of right, but that for a public good they are sacrificing a purchased privilege.

1843. Alexander Milne.

Minute Book of Guild.

It is suggested that the Dean should call the Guildry together on the morning of the election of Harbour Trustees, so that instead of the nine members whom the Guildry elect being nominated by a few persons, whose offices are near the Harbour Office, the Brethren themselves in open Court should elect, or have the opportunity at least given them so to do.

1844. Alexander Milne.

Minute Book of Guild.

1845. James Hadden.

Minute Book of Guild.

The system of Banking and Currency in Scotland is discussed, and at a General Meeting of the Guild, it is unanimously agreed—

I. That the present system of Banking and Currency, which has now been established in Scotland for a century and a-half, has completely engrafted itself upon the habits and feelings of the Scottish public, and is cherished by them as the chief means through which the country has rapidly advanced in agricultural and in commercial wealth and importance.

II. That the withdrawal of the One Pound Notes, which constitute two-thirds of the money circulation of Scotland, would lead to the discontinuance of cash credit,

by means of which the banks have long afforded, and now afford, incalculable assistance to the working classes, would bring abruptly to a close the improvements in agriculture, now so rapidly progressing, and occasion such a check to the manufacturing and commercial enterprises of the country as must inevitably ruin many most deserving parties.

III. That the withdrawal from the banks of the power to issue One Pound Notes, would render them unable to allow interest on deposits, the payment of which hitherto has tended to foster habits of industry and frugality, by the inducement which it holds out for the middle classes to deposit their savings with the banks.

IV. That our One Pound Notes form a most current and cheap medium of exchange, and would with difficulty in remote districts be superseded by gold. That the meeting has the utmost confidence, confirmed by long experience, in the banks presently established in Scotland, and believes that they are, from their condition, well fitted to conduct the monetary transactions of the country. That the meeting further believes that any measure which provides, on the principle of regulating the circulation of the country, on the basis of the foreign exchanges, is altogether very erroneous, because that circulation is wholly created by, and adopts itself to the wants of each particular district; and accordingly, an examination of the Scottish circulation will shew that it fluctuates with the amount of commodities circulated at the various periods of the year, and not with the state of the foreign exchanges.

V. That the threatened legislation in the Currency of Scotland will be received by the population as an

uncalled for, arbitrary, and most dangerous interference with the wants of the country—a measure by which the comfort and happiness of the peaceable institutions and at present well affected people of Scotland will be unnecessarily placed in jeopardy, and which, if thrust upon them against their united remonstrances, will, among its primary consequences, prove disastrous to the industry of the country, and tend to alienate the confidence and attachment of a large portion of the population from the Government of the country.

This petition is forwarded for presentation, and Mr. Bannerman is requested to present the same, and support the prayer thereof.

1846. James Hadden.

Minute Book of Guild.

The Dean of Guild and his Assessors have repeatedly had the subject of the abolition of the privileges of exclusive trading in Scottish Burghs under their consideration, but are reluctant to express a decided opinion on a matter which is of such importance to the Burgesses of Guild collectively, and they feel rather inclined to leave it in the hands of their brethren at large. They, however, have little doubt, from the spirit of the age, that the time is approaching when the exclusive right of trading will be abolished throughout the kingdom, and upon due provision being made that the right to the Charitable Funds and other interests and privileges belonging to the Guildry be strictly reserved and maintained as heretofore, they would suggest to the Burgesses of Guild the propriety of departing from their exclusive

right of trading in either Burgh. At a full meeting of Burgesses this is agreed to.

1847. Alexander Gordon.

Minute Book of Guild.

It is moved in the Council that, in respect of the exclusive privilege of trading in Burghs having been abolished, and all classes of citizens placed on an equal footing, the Council do now resolve to abolish, or reduce to a merely nominal sum, the charge to the Common Good on entrant Burgesses; and that the Scotch Act of 1846 having deprived the Guildry of their exclusive privileges in regard to trade, the Council admit that the connection that body has hitherto had with the Burgh is indirectly cut off. The Council is, therefore, prepared to separate the charitable funds and other property of the Guildry Incorporation from the Burgh Accounts and Burgh Management, and to transfer the same to the Guildry, to be managed by themselves. Neither party seemed ready for the transference, for nothing further is done.

1848. Alexander Gordon.

Minute Book of Guild.

1849. George G. Bothwell.

Minute Book of Guild.

1850. George G. Bothwell.

Minute Book of Guild.

1851. George Inglis.

Minute Book of Guild.

1852. George Inglis.

Minute Book of Guild.

1853. Alexander Nicol.

Minute Book of Guild.

1854. Alexander Nicol.

Minute Book of Guild.

The Dean stated that, in consequence of remarks made at last general election as to the decrease of the number of Burgesses, he had requested and received from the Chamberlain a statement shewing the number entered for ten years preceding 1843, when certain of their privileges were abolished, and the ten years subsequent to that period, and found a great decrease in the number of entrants. He had also ascertained from the Deans of Edinburgh, Glasgow, and Dundee, that the entry money payable by Burgesses there was much less than that paid here, but he had not ascertained the corresponding privileges. He made the statement for the consideration of the Burgesses, so that they may, if they think proper, adopt some plan for increasing the number of entrants.

1855. William Rose.

Minute Book of Guild.

1856. William Rose.

Minute Book of Guild.

1857. George Thomson.

Minute Book of Guild.

The Burgesses petition Parliament against the union of the Colleges.

1858. George Thomson.

Minute Book of Guild.

1859. George Thomson.

Minute Book of Guild.

The Burgesses resolve to petition Parliament against the Bill (at present before Parliament) entituled "A Bill to amend the law relative to the legal qualifications of Councillors, and the admission of Burgesses in Royal Burghs in Scotland," unless a clause shall be inserted, giving the Burgesses of Guild the full management of their own funds, under the form of a Friendly Society, and that the privileges of Robert Gordon's Hospital shall be continued, or not altered by the Bill. A large Committee is named for the purpose of advising with the Dean, who enters into communication with Mr. Dunlop, the author of the Bill, and the clause "that such admission, by minute of Council, shall not *per se* be held to give or imply any right or title to, or interest in the properties, funds, or revenues of any of the Guilds, Crafts, or Incorporations of the Burgh, or any Mortifications or Benefactions for behoof of the Burgesses of such Guilds, Crafts, or Incorporations, or of their families, or *any right of management thereof*, or any membership in any of the said Guilds, Crafts, or Incorporations," was, by many, held to be the granting of the protection sought.

1860. George Jamieson.

Minute Book of Guild.

1861. George Jamieson.

Minute Book of Guild.

The amount of stock belonging to the following Funds and Mortifications appears at this date to be:—

I. The Guildry Charitable Funds—

Guild Brethren's Hospital	£18,273	15	8
Guild Box	11,356	7	2
Additional Fund to Guild Box ...	16,393	7	11
	£46,023	10	9

II. Mortifications for behoof of Burgesses, their Widows, or Children, of which the Town Council are patrons under the relative Deeds of Mortification—

£10,314 6s. 11d.

III. Mortifications under the patronage of the Town Council, in which Burgesses of Guild, their Widows, and Families have only a joint interest with other parties—

£3,820 9s. 9d.

The sum in the whole of the three branches being—

£60,158 7s. 5d.

In the Town Council, by a majority, it was agreed that—

I. The Town Council, considering that for a long period of years the Charitable Funds belonging to the Burgesses of Guild have been managed by the Council, considering also that recent legislation has materially altered the qualifications for a seat at the Council Board, the Council is of opinion that, under certain conditions, the Guildry ought to have the management of their own

funds; therefore they name a Committee, who, with a Committee of Burgesses, are to prepare a draft Bill for the purpose of legalizing the transfer of the funds, and giving the Guildry a legal right to hold the same in all time coming.

II. That a clause be introduced into the proposed Bill, authorizing the expenses of carrying out the foregoing resolution to be defrayed from the Guildry Funds.

Thereafter, at a full meeting of the Guild Brethren, the equity of this proposal was recognised, and it was resolved that, under the altered circumstances in which the Guildry now stand towards the Town Council, by provision of the Dunlop Act of 1860, the Burgesses are entitled to the management of their Charitable Funds; and, approving generally of the resolutions contained in the report, agree to appoint a Committee to act with the Committee of the Town Council, for the purpose of preparing the heads of a Bill to be submitted to Parliament for the attainment of this object, and for other necessary purposes connected therewith.

Dean Jamieson and the Law Agent elected by the Guildry, are authorized to proceed to Edinburgh, to consult Counsel, if they shall see fit. The heads of a Bill prepared, Counsel consulted, and all ready, when two gentlemen of the Guildry obstruct, and shortly after four in the Council hinder anything being done.

1862. George Jamieson.

Minute Book of Guild.

Memorial by Joint Committee sent to Edinburgh. Answer to same received. Not helpful in any way important.

1863. George B. Bothwell.

Minute Book of Guild.

1864. George B. Bothwell.

Minute Book of Guild.

1865. George B. Bothwell.

Minute Book of Guild.

On the death of Mr. Alex. Fraser the Guildry elect, nominate, and appoint Mr. William Gordon to be Clerk to the Dean of Guild Court of this City, with the whole powers, privileges, and emoluments thereto belonging; and the said Mr. Wm. Gordon being present, accepted of the said appointment, and gave his oath *de fideli administratione officii.*

1866. George Jamieson.

Minute Book of Guild.

1867. George Jamieson.

Minute Book of Guild.

1868. George Jamieson.

Minute Book of Guild.

A very large meeting of Guild Brethren sanction the Dean of Guild and his Assessors petitioning for leave to bring into Parliament "The Aberdeen Guildry and Town Council Bill." This Bill, quite as much in the interests of the Council as of the Guild, sought leave to get for the Guildry the management of that which was proved to be theirs alone. Further, it sought to give to the Magistrates and Council the control and management of certain

mortifications bequeathed by certain persons for behoof of the Burgesses of Guild, their Widows, and Children. And further, it sought to secure to the Magistrates and Council the management of those funds where a mixed interest exists. Seventy-four Guild Brethren agreed to this, and five disagreed. It will save some useless writing, and the transcription of much verbiage, if we here note that the assertion that "the Guildry were appropriating funds to which they had no exclusive right," has no other base to rest upon than that of the careless historian, Kennedy, who, putting a wrong name to Canon Clatt's bequest, led his followers a Will-o'-the-Wisp chase. In these pages the nature of these Mortifications has been sufficiently made out; it remains now to supplement the information somewhat, and the writer fears that that further supplement only makes the case worse for the obstructives. If the Chapel of St. Thomas did not, at the Reformation, with all its lands, belong to the Burghers, to whom did it belong? James the Sixth, by an Act frequently quoted, gave up all such. The Burghers, as witnessed by the Boards—and by the bequests of many citizens, enriched St. Thomas—their Hospital, the price the city paid for widening Correction Wynd, and the capitalized value of the balance of the subject, are rightly accounted for to the Guildry. But where do we get an equivalent for the lost ground annuals of Lord Kintore, or those of Dionysius Chalmers, or the loss by the sale of the Guild Brethren's Hospital, which was erected by their purchasing for that purpose Robert Gordon's Hospital's Gardener's house.

The same party action which had been useless in the Guild was turned to use in the Council; and there,

resolutions, the competency of which the party were at no trouble to ascertain, were passed. These resolutions the Guild Brethren resolutely refused to look at. On the application for admission by five sons of Burgesses, certified by the Court, the Town Council refused admission on other than the terms of their incompetent resolutions. A letter to each of the applicants, notifying this, was at same time sent by the Town Clerk. In the answer which these gentlemen sent to the Dean, there occurs this passage:—"As this matter seriously affects the constitution of the Guildry as a body, and the rights and position of all who may in future claim admission into it, we think it should be taken up, not by a few individuals, but by the general body, and we venture to ask you to bring the Town Clerk's letter, our petition, and the whole question before your Assessors, that you may take measures for having it authoritatively settled."

1869. Hugh Ross.

Minute Book of Guild.

A Committee named to meet with the Council with reference to these resolutions. At this meeting, after deliberation, Provost Leslie promised, on behalf of the Town Council, to give these resolutions, and the whole subject, their careful and favourable consideration. The Town Council leave their resolutions uncancelled, and under the same guidance become more agressive on the Guildry. Under these conditions the appeal contained in the letter previously quoted, did not, like the appeal made by Dean Neil Smith in 1833, fall on unheeding ears; instead of the forty he then asked for, one hundred and twenty Guild Brethren stepped forward to the help

of Dean Hugh Ross, and subscribed, and paid into the hands of Treasurers, then named, Two Thousand Pounds, to be spent, if need be, in defence of their rights and charities. The Town Council, instead of defending the action which they had provoked, considered discretion the better part of valour, and put in no appearance, judgment of course being given against them.

1870. Hugh Ross.

Minute Book of Guild.

1871. Lewis Smith.

Minute Book of Guild.

Opportunity given to the Town Council to withdraw the objectionable minute. The Dean issues in pamphlet form an honest statement of the whole case; yet, by a majority, the Council retain the minute.

1872. Lewis Smith.

Minute Book of Guild.

No applicants for admission to Guild since the Town Council passed the resolutions of 1869 and 1870.

1873. Alexander Walker.

Minute Book of Guild.

1874. Alexander Walker.

Minute Book of Guild.

An effort made to settle the differences between Town Council and Guild Brethren, on the concession by

the latter of a sum of money to the former. The Guild Brethren approve and sanction the appropriation of a part of their funds for the purpose of erecting a Public Epidemic Hospital, if by so doing a compromise can be effected to the satisfaction of all concerned, whereby the Guildry Funds not so appropriated, may be secured to the Guildry without challenge in the future. Towards the end of the year the Dean issued "A Possible Scheme of Settlement," being suggestions of his own, based on the remit.

1875. Alexander Mallier.

Minute Book of Guild.

The Joint Committees have had frequent meetings. Heads of settlement of terms of Act advancing. Meanwhile, the Town Council cancel the resolutions, and many applicants for admission to the Guildry come forward and are admitted.

EXTRACT FROM

"THE PRIVILEGES OF THE ROYAL BURROWS," 1747.

"AS to the privileges of Aberdeen, the ancientest charter extant that I hear of belonging to that city is granted by King Alexander the Second, which, with his seal, is said to be yet in their Charter chist. But I have seen their Charter from King Robert, of the town of Aberdeen privileges thereof, and Forest of Stocket, which extends their privileges some miles to the westward of the town. This Charter is dated at Berwick-upon-Tweed in the fourteenth year of his reign. They have also other Charters from King David, from the several King Jameses, and from Queen Mary. And this Charter from Queen Mary, besides their other valuable privileges, gives them power to feu the Salmon Fishings of Dee and Don to their Burghers, which were then and are yet of a very considerable value, and they are so limited, that none can be infeft in these fishings but a Burgess residing and using the trade of merchandize within the Burgh, and each Burgess can enjoy no more but one *separate feu of a half net's salmon fishing or the eighth part of the salmon fishing in the cruives;* and there is this furder speciality, that no woman can be infeft in these fishings, so much as in life rent; the design being that Burgesses using the trade of merchandizing should from time to time enjoy and improve them, and yet not be in their power to make a monopoly of them. King Charles the First ratifies all former privileges granted by his pre-

decessors, Kings and Queens of Scotland, and particularly the Charters and privileges by King William, King Alexander the Second, Alexander the Third, Robert the First, David his Son, Robert the Second, Robert the Third, Kings James the First, Second, Third, Fourth, Queen Mary, and King James the Sixth. And of new upon a very full narration of the good services of the Burgh of Aberdeen, His Majesty dispones the Town with the lands and fishings thereto belonging with the Port and Harbour, with the privilege of holding Courts, exacting customs, as also disposes any lands belonging to Abbacies, Priories, Chaplainries, Altarages, with the Lochs and Meadows; and by this Charter they have in most ample form the privilege of being Sheriffs, Coroners, and Justices of the Peace, within themselves, and the Provost for the term is Sheriff-Principal, and the Baillies Sheriff-Deputes, whose powers in judging of matters civil or criminal are as ample as the powers of any Shire or Town within the kingdom, and these powers are particularly enumerat in their Charter. They have also the power and privilege of visiting the weights and measures in all the fairs and markets, and other places within the shire, and of punishing such as use false weights and measures; and this chapter furder contains an union and annexation of all those privileges into the free Royal Burgh there, and in all time thereafter, to be called the Town of Aberdeen, as is more fully mentioned in the Charter dated ninth September, 1638, in the terms of which rights and privileges the Town of Aberdeen have been in possession of sole Sheriffs and Justices of the Peace within their town and freedom, and their Dean of Guild in all markets within the Shire to this day inspects the weights and

measures, and punishes the delinquents. The Town of Aberdeen has also a jurisdiction cumulative with the Sheriff of the Shire, in judging the killers of black fish, and destroyers of fry and smolts of salmon in the waters of Dee and Don, and their Magistrates do usually sit and hold Courts in the remote parts of the Shire, adjacent to these rivers, and fines and amerciates delinquents, and their decrees have been sustained before the Session, notwithstanding that they were pronounced against persons living within regalities. All I shall say of the antiquities of Aberdeen is, that its thought to be the city mentioned by Ptolmey, which he calls Devana, and the river adjacent Diva, and this is the opinion of Cambden. It is said also that the city was created a Burgh Royal by Gregory the Great, who reigned about eight hundred years ago. However, I shall not furder inquire into their antiquity, seeing, as I have said, my business is to publish their privileges, the which I here have done."

Sett of the Burgh of Aberdeen

In 1710.

THE Town Counsell of Aberdeen is chosen yearly out of the whole citizens and burgesses of the city. The roll of the whole brethren of gild being first read at every election of the counsell, which holds upon the Wednesday before Michaelmas day, there being a large catalogue drawn up of all the brethren of gild amongst them, every persone, (whom any of the old counsell desires to be listed among these out of whom the new counsell is to be chosen), is presently sett down in that new list; and, when the list is compleated, by reading over the whole brethren of gild of the town, there is ane indefinite number sett down, upon two or three sheet of paper, with lines drawn after every one of their names, and this is given to the present provost, baillies, and the whole old council, that every one may make choice of thirteen brethren of gild, to be named for the new counsel for the year to come; and most votes, or marks, make up the number.

Next, they of the old counsell choose out of their own number four who are called the old four, which being added to the former thirteen, make up the number of seventeen brethren of gild. And, lastly, having got the roll of all the present deacons of trades, there are two of these deacons chosen, which makes up the compleat number of nineteen for the counsell the year ensuing.

The new chosen counsellors being all sent for, and come in the afternoon, the whole old and new counsell, with the six deacons of trades, and the four deacons of the old and new counsell, which makes up ten deacons of trades, and thirty brethren of gild, making up in all the number of forty votes, they altogether choose, first the provost, then four baillies, a dean of gild, a treasurer, a master of the kirk-work, and bridge work, a master of the mortified moneys, a master of the gild hospital, a master of the shoar, called a master of the impost, and six single counsellors, who bear no office, but sitt and vote in all affairs that come before the counsell, with the two deacons of trades. If in this election their fall to be one having equal votes, the provost, in this case, hath the casting vote.

This is the true way of election of the town counsell of Aberdeen yearly. In testimony whereof, thir presents are subscribed by Mr. Alexander Thomson, common clerk of the said burgh, at Aberdeen, the 21st day of June, 1710 years. *Sic subscribitur* Al. Thomson.

The Present Sett of the Burgh of Aberdeen.

1875.

THE Town Council of Aberdeen consists of 25 Members, viz.:—

LORD PROVOST.	MASTER OF KIRK AND BRIG WARK.
SIX BAILLIES.	MASTER OF MORTIFICATIONS.
DEAN OF GUILD.	MASTER OF GUILD BRETHREN'S HOSPITAL.
CITY TREASURER.	
MASTER OF SHOREWORKS.	

AND

TWELVE COUNCILLORS.

The mode of Election of the Members of Council (with the exception of the Dean of Guild) is regulated by the Act 3 and 4 William IV., cap. 76, the Municipal Elections Amendment (Scotland) Acts, 1868 and 1870—the Aberdeen Municipality Extension Act, 1871—the Ballot Act, 1872, and other relative Statutes. For the purpose of the Election of Councillors, the Burgh is divided into four Wards—one-third of the Council retiring annually—that is, two in each Ward.

Candidates for Election as Councillors must be nominated by two Electors, and their nomination papers lodged with the Town Clerk on the Thursday immediately preceding the day of Election. If no more Candidates are nominated than there are vacancies to fill in any Ward, the Candidates so nominated are declared elected Councillors without a Poll.

In the event of a Poll in any Ward, the Election takes place by Ballot on the first Tuesday of November yearly, when the parties having the greatest number of votes are on the following day (Wednesday) declared elected Councillors. Intimation of their election is then made to them by the Town Clerk, and on Thursday the new Councillors attend and intimate whether they decline or accept office. In the event of any party so declining, a new election takes place (for the vacancy).

On the next day (Friday) the new Council meet and fill up the vacancies in the Magistrates and Office-Bearers. These are elected by the votes of the Council, the Lord Provost, or the Chairman for the time being, having a casting vote.

The Lord Provost and City Treasurer each remain in Office for three years from the time of their election as such. The Baillies and Office-Bearers are elected annually.

The Dean of Guild is elected annually at a Meeting of the Burgesses of Guild not receiving aid from the Guildry Funds. The retiring Dean takes the Chair, and if only one person is proposed and seconded he is declared elected. If more than one, the election takes place by ballot, when the person having the greatest number of votes is declared elected. At the first Meeting of the new Council, on the Friday, the Dean of Guild's election is reported, and he takes his seat along with the other Members of the Council.

—*Extracted from the Records by William Gordon, Esq., Town Clerk.*

Some Honorary Burgesses of Aberdeen.

"Quod Bonum Faustum Felix Fortunatum sit."

Doctor JOHNSON said—"The honour conferred had all the decorations that politeness could add, and, what I am afraid I should not have had to say of any city south of the Tweed, I found no petty officer bowing for a fee."

1439. ROBERT, EARL OF MAR.
1582. GEORGE, VIth EARL, and 1st MARQUIS OF HUNTLY.
GEORGE, IInd MARQUIS OF HUNTLY.
1594. LUDWICK, DUKE OF LENNOX.
1597. FRANCIS, Xth EARL OF ERROL.
1601. SIR FRANCIS HOSPITAL of Hatric.
1601. LAURENCE FLETCHER.
1608. PATRICK GORDON.
1622. ARTHUR JOHNSTONE.
SIR JOHN SCOTT of Scotstarvet.
1624. GILBERT GORDON of Fallagh.
JOHN, XIIIth EARL OF SUTHERLAND.
1640. GENERAL MUNRO.
1746. WILLIAM AUGUSTUS, DUKE OF CUMBERLAND.
1761. GEORGE COLMAN the Younger.
1769. JOHN BAXTER.
1773. DR. SAMUEL JOHNSON.
1790. THE REVEREND JOHN SKINNER.
1792. WILLIAM CREECH, Provost of Edinburgh.
1793. GEORGE, Vth DUKE OF GORDON.
HENRY DUNDAS.
COUNT OTTO.
1794. PROFESSOR JOHN HUNTER of St. Andrews.
PROFESSOR JOHN YOUNG of Glasgow.

1795. ADOLPHUS, XIIth DUKE OF SOMERSET.
SIR JOHN SINCLAIR.
1796. *Mr.* WALTER SCOTT.
ADMIRAL SIR THOMAS PASLEY.
JOHN RENNIE.
1806. GEORGE, IVth EARL OF ABERDEEN.
SIR DAVID BAIRD.
1811. JOHN, VIth DUKE OF BEDFORD.
1817. OLINTHUS GREGORY.
M. JEAN BAPTISTE BIOT.
SIR JAMES MACGREGOR.
1825. CAPT. EDWARD SABINE.
JOSEPH SABINE.
1832. JOHN ABERCROMBIE, M.D.
1834. WALTER FRANCIS, DUKE OF BUCCLEUGH.
GEORGE, MARQUIS OF TWEED-DALE.
HENRY, LORD BROUGHAM and VAUX.
1836. WILLIAM GEORGE, EARL OF ERROL.
1837. CHARLES, DUKE OF RICHMOND.
1839. DR. GEORGE WATT.
1840. GEORGE GRANVILLE, DUKE OF SUTHERLAND.
1841. ROBERT WALLACE of Kelly.
1842. GEORGE THOMSON of Fairley, C.B.
1844. ROWLAND HILL.
1845. SAMUEL MACKNIGHT.
1848. H.R.H. PRINCE ALBERT.
1849. THE RIGHT HON. SIR ROBERT PEEL.
1851. THE RIGHT HON. SIR JAMES GRAHAM.
1853. THE RIGHT HON. GEORGE WILLIAM FREDERICK HOWARD, EARL OF CARLISLE.
1854. JOSEPH HUME.
1858. THE RIGHT HON. PHILIP HENRY, EARL STANHOPE.
1859. THE RIGHT HON. DAVID GRAHAM DRUMMOND OGILVIE, EARL OF AIRLIE.
1859. THE RIGHT HON. LORD JOHN RUSSELL.
1862. THE RIGHT HON. EDWARD ELLICE.
1866. H.R.H. THE PRINCE OF WALES.
1871. THE RIGHT HON. WILLIAM EWART GLADSTONE.

APPENDIX.

The foregoing sheets had nearly all been printed off, before I received from my good friend ANDREW JERVISE, Esq., F.S.A. Scot., the annexed letter, deed, and accompanying valuable notes, which I am thus reluctantly compelled to put into the form of an Appendix. My very best thanks are due to Mr. Jervise for his courtesy and kindness on this and on very many other occasions.

130a

WE Cras our Sovereign Lord taking to his consideration the many
sufferings of the burgesses of his ancient royall Burgh of Aberdeen for many yeares
during the tyme of the late troubles and the shatterin the accompt of their singular loyalty and
affection to his thatrier and deceased father of the rall memory (so that the said burg of
Aberdeen and common good thereof is so burdened and affected with publick debt contracted
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We Lords our Sovereign Lord taking to his consideration the many
sufferings of the burgesses of his ancient royall burgh of Aberdeen for many years
during the time of the late troubles And that in the accompt of their singular loyalty and
affection to his Maiesties and deceased father of ever all memory So that the said burgh of
Aberdeen and commonwealth thereof is so burdened and affected with publick debt contracted
upon the accompt forsaid that the yearly and termly payments of the rents of ye Lamen
publick debt cannot be made without yearly and termly having the burgesses and trad
ders of the said burgh to such great sommes of money as will undoubtedly reduce them to
extream poverty In Respect of his Majesties out of his royall care to preserve his
said ancient royall and always most loyall burgh from decay and ruin hath by his letters
patents of the date at Windsor Castell the 18th day of August 1675 and of his Majesties
raign the 27th year Indulged the Magistrats of the said burgh for ye time being (for re
lieff of their said publick debts) to impose upon alle wyne beer brandie and strong waters
brewen to be vented and sold within the said burgh attennerly the imposition spoken
in the said gift As is at more length therein contained And Now Wee noblemen
gentlemen and heretors of the Shyr of Aberdeen undersubscriving to testifie our conscience
to his Majesties commands and respects to the interest and standing of the said town Doe
heerby Declare our concurrence and willingnes to the prosecution of the said
gift and grant Conforme to the tenor thereof in all points Be their pnts subscry
ved with our hands dayes and places rexive underwryne

Alex. Vdm

Geo Stene of Waster Ellinbrey

Sandilands of Cotton

Alex Davidson of Cornbrogid

Morthing of Dunbar

Basken of Ord

Ste: Stephenson of Ashmus

Stene of Newtyle

Burret of Cadinter

Gray of Crevitie

Jacobowe Stonyfield

Hunt of Folq

Alex Vrquhar of Mory

Ar. Forbes of Brux

Forbes

Forbes plum. Mr Mores Wiltone

Geo Dunn of Carrie

Geo Nicolson of Cluny

Gordon of Terhill

Jo. Sandilands of Crabston

Tho Shand of Bandark

William Cominge of Arthrey

Gordon of Cults.

Hunt of Craphar

Huntly

Erroll

Marischolls Mar

Pitsligo.

Fraser

BRECHIN, *24th August*, 1875.

MY DEAR MR. WALKER,

Aware of your anxiety to throw light upon the early state of your own "braif toun," I beg to enclose a deed for your use which relates to rather an important point in the history of your native City. As it contains the genuine signatures of many of the more notable of "The Noblemen and Heritors" of Aberdeenshire, who flourished about 200 years ago, the paper may be said to possess more than an ordinary interest for the good folks of Aberdeen.

I received it from Dr. Duncan of Crimond, in Buchan, when there in June last. He found it amongst many other papers of the same sort, which were left by his father-in-law, the late Mr. Stephen, bank agent, Fraserburgh. Dr. Duncan kindly told me to make any good use of it I liked, and hearing that you are soon to add to your already acquired laurels by the production of a work on local history, I feel that I could not put the paper into better hands than your own. I am at same time convinced that Dr. Duncan will be much pleased that you use it.

If you think that a few notes regarding those "old friends of Bon-Accord," who signed the deed, would add in any degree to its interest, I shall gladly throw a few particulars together regarding them.

Believe me,

Yours very truly,

ANDREW JERVISE.

ALEX. WALKER, Esq.,
Dean of Guild, &c.
Aberdeen.

Print of the preceding Document:-

WHERAS our Soveraign Lord taking to his consideration the many sufferings of the burgesses of his ancient Royall Burgh of Aberdeen, for many yeares during the tyme of ye late troubles, AND that upon the accompt of ther Singular loyalty and affection to his Maties and deceased father of eternall memory, So that the said burg of Aberdeen, and common good therof, is so burdened and affected with publick debt contracted upon the accompt forsaid, That the yearly and termly payment of ye @rents of ye samen publick debt can not be made without yearly and termly taxing the burgesses and tradders of the said burgh to such great sounes of money as will undoubtedly reduce them to extream poverty, IN RESPECT qrof, his Majesty, out of his royall care to preserve his said ancient, royall, and alwys most loyall burgh, from decay and ruin, hath by his letters patents, of ye date at Windsor Castell, the 18th day of August 1675, and of his Majestie's raign the 27th year, Indulged the Magistrats of the said burgh for ye time being (for relief of ther said publick debts), to impose upon alle wyne, beer, brandie, and strong waters, brewen, tapped, vented, and sold within ther said burgh, allennerly the imposition specified in the said gift, As is at more length therin contained; AND NOW, Wee noblemen, gentlemen, and hereters of the shyr of Aberdeen undersubscryving, to testifie our obedience to his Majesties commands and respects to the interest and standing of the said toun, DOE hereby DECLARE our concurrence and

willingnes to the prosecution of the said gift and grant, Conforme to the tennor therof in all points, Be thir presents subscryed with our hands dayes, and places, respectively underwryne :—

1.—Huntly.
2.—Erroll.
3.—Mar.
4.—Marischall. +
5.—Pitsligo.
6.—Al. Fraser.
7.—Alexr. Vdny.
8.—Geo. Skene off Waster Fintrey.
9.—P. Sandilands, Cotton
10.—Alexr. Davidson of Carnbrogie.
11.—W. Cochrane of Dunbreck.
12.—J. Baskin of Ord.
13.—Ale. Alexander of Achmull.
14.—Al. Skene of Newtyle.
15.—Robt. Burnet of Lethintie.
16.—John Gray of Creichie.
17.—Ja. Moire, Stonywood.
18.—Al. Forbes of Tolqn.
19.—Ad. Vrquhart of Meldin.
20.—Ar. Forbes of Brux.
21.— +Mr. R. Forbes.
22.—R. Forbes of Asloun.
23.— ——Dun of Tartie.
24.—Mr. W. More, Hiltone.
25.—George Nicolson of Cluny.
26.—J. Gordon of Feebill.
27.—Ja. Sandilands of Crabston.
28.—Tho. Shand of Bandach.
29.—William Cominge of Achrey.
30.—P. Gordone of Cults.
31.— ——Forbes of Cragivar.

[*Indorsed.*]

"THE NOBLEMEN AND HERITORS CONSENTS FOR THE EFFECT WITHIN-WRITTEN."

Notes Illustrative of Signatures to Deed.

1. HUNTLY.—George Gordon, 4th Marquis of Huntly, succeeded his father in 1653, and died in 1716. He married a daughter of the Duke of Norfolk, and was created Duke of Gordon in 1684. (*Douglas' Peerage*). George, 1st Marquis, and George, 2nd Marquis, were both Honorary Burgesses of Aberdeen. (*See* p. 127.)

2. ERROLL.—Sir John Hay of Keillor (son of Sir Andrew Hay of Keillor, by Margaret, daughter of Lord Kinnaird), succeeded as 11th Earl of Erroll on the death of Gilbert, 10th Earl, in 1674. (*Ib.*) William, Earl of Errol, in 1836, was made an Honorary Burgess of Aberdeen. (*See* p. 128.)

3. MAR.—Charles Erskine, who succeeded his father in the Earldom of Mar in 1668, and died in 1689, married a daughter of the Earl of Panmure, by whom he had John, the celebrated Earl of Mar, who set up the Standard of the Pretender at Braemar in 1715. (*Ib.*) John of Mar is Dean of Guild of Aberdeen, in 1436; (p. 1) and Robert, Earl of Mar, an Honorary Burgess of Aberdeen in 1439. (*See* p. 2.)

4. MARISCHALL.—George Keith, 8th Earl Marischal, succeeded his father in 1661, and died in 1694. He married a daughter of the Earl of Erroll. (*Ib.*)

5. PITSLIGO.—Alex. Forbes, was served heir to his father, Lord Pitsligo, in 1636, and died in ——. He married a daughter of the Earl of Buchan, and had a son Alexander, who became third Lord Pitsligo, and died in 1691. The signature is probably that of the third Lord Pitsligo. (*Ib.*) He built the old Kirk of Pitsligo.

6. AL. FRASER, Master of Saltoun (son of Alexander Fraser of Philorth) died in the lifetime of his father, leaving a son who succeeded his grandfather as 11th Lord Saltoun. (*Ib.*)

7. ALEXR. VDNY.—This is probably the signature of Alex. Udny of Udny, who was served heir to his father in certain properties in Aberdeen, 16th August, 1669 (*Retours*). In 1685 Alex. Udny of that Ilk, his heirs and successors, had a grant of two free fairs in the year to be held at Kirkton of Udny. The Udnys, or Uldenys, have been designed of that Ilk from at least the 14th century. (*Coll. Abdn. and Banff*, iii. 77, 111.)

8. GEO. SKENE off Waster Fintrey. — In 1658 George Skeen of Fintrie gave 100 marks towards the erection of the new buildings of King's College. (*Fasti Aberdonensis.*) Sir George Skene of Fintry was Provost of Aberdeen in 1685.

9. P. SANDILANDS, Cotton (Old Machar). — Mr. Patrick Sandilands of Cotton consented to give 10 rix dollars towards the repair of King's College in 1688, "provided he was freed from his obligation upon the Medicinall Garden." (*Fasti.*)

10. ALEXR. DAVIDSON of Carnbrogie (Tarves).—This family was designed of Cairnbrogie down to about 1732, and may have been descended from Sir Robert Davidson, the "Provost of braif Aberdene," who fell at Harlaw in 1411. A well-executed effigy in free-stone of a knight in armour, in the N.W. window of the West Kirk of Aberdeen, is said to represent Provost Davidson who fell at Harlaw. It is further stated that the lettered portion of the same tomb lies buried about the back of the Kirk. A flat slab on the south-west of the nave bears an inscription (quoted below), which shews that the laird of Cairnbrogie, who died in 1666, was the father of the person who signed the deed in question. The inscription runs thus:—"Hic requiescunt Magister Alexr. Davidson de Carnbrogie ivrisconsvltvs qui obiit 26° Aprilis A.D. MDCLXVI. Et Magister Alexr. Davidson de Nevtovn ivrisconsvltvs filivs eius moriens 2° Aprilis A.E.C. MDCLXXXV." The property of Newton, here mentioned, is in the parish of Culsalmond, where there is one of the most interesting of the Sculptured Stones of Scotland. It is engraved in the Spalding Club edition of *Sculptured Stones of Scot.*, vol. i. Newton now belongs to Mr. Gordon, whose ancestors were merchants in Elgin.

11. W. COCHRANE of Dunbreck (Udny). — W. Cochrane, who graduated at King's College in 1651 (*Fasti*), was probably a son of Walter Cochrane, who was Dean of Guild of Aberdeen in 1643 (*supra*, p. 50). Cochranes were designed of that Ilk (1503), of Colane (1467), Pitfour (1479).

12. J. BASKIN of Ord (Skene).—There are various entries concerning Baskin of Ord in the Parish Register

of Skene. Jas. Baskin was designed of Aldmaud in 1690.

13. ALE. ALEXANDER of Auchmull (Newhills) was a Baillie of Aberdeen in 1685, and ancestor of Jean Alexander, heiress of Auchmull. She married *Black Jock*, son of Forbes of Skelatur. *Black Jock*, Baillie to the Earl of Mar for the Lordship of Kildrummy, was the first Forbes of Inverernan. An old family Bible, in the possession of Mr. M'Combie of Easter Skene, bears this interesting note regarding *Black Jock* and his wife:—"Alex. Forbes of Inverernan married to Miss Jean Alexander of Auchmill in April, 1733. She dyed the 16th September, 1785, and Inverernan on the 15th May, 1787." In consequence of Mr. M'Combie's wife having been a daughter of Major Forbes of Inverernan, he also possesses some of the family plate, upon which are the initials of *Black Jock* and his wife—"A. F." "J. A." (*Supra*, p. 96.)

14. AL. SKENE of Newtyle (Foveran), wrote *Memorials of the Royal Burghs of Scotland* under the name of "Philopoliteus," Aberdeen, 1685. He was long a baillie of the City, and contributed £20 Scots towards the raising of the new buildings of King's College in 1658. (*Fasti.*)

15. ROBT. BURNET of Lethintie (Daviot) also designed of Lumphart and Feinzes in same parish. (*Coll.*)

16. JOHN GRAY of Creichie (?)—Grays, a Roman Catholic family, were designed of Shivas in Methlic from an early date. John Gray of Creichie was possibly descended from the Shivas family.

17. Ja. Moire, Sonywood (Newhills). — This may be the signature of James Moir who was a regent of Marischal College in 1690. (*Fasti.*) Moir of Stoneywood went out in the '45, but returned to his paternal property, where he died. In the *Spalding Club Miscellany* (vol. i.) there are some interesting letters from Lewis Gordon and others to this laird of Stoneywood. The Moirs of Invernetty were of the same race.

18. Al. Forbes of Tolquhn (Tarves).—This laird, one of the three Colonels for Aberdeenshire in the Scotch Army of Charles II., was knighted in 1653-4. He married the relict of Sir W. Forbes of Craigievar, and dying issueless in 1701-2, was succeeded by a nephew. Being greatly mortgaged, the property of Tolquhon was sold by order of the Court of Session in 1716. It was bought by Lieut-Col. Farquhar, from whose heirs it was obtained by William, Earl of Aberdeen. (*Genealogy of the House of Tolquhon*).

19. Ad. Vrquhart of Meldm (Meldrum).—After serving in the army abroad, he returned home, entered the King's service, and walked in the procession at the funeral of the Duke of Rothes, as Commander-in-chief of H. M.'s Forces. He long represented the county of Aberdeen in Parliament, and died in 1684. Urquharts succeeded to Meldrum, by marrying the heiress of Alex. Seton of Meldrum in 1610. (*Douglas' Baronage.*)

20. Ar. Forbes of Brux (Kildrummy).—John Forbes of Brux, by "Isobell, daughter to Cairnburrow, had Arthur Forbes of Brux." (*Coll.*, i. 592.) This branch of the Forbes' was founded by "Alister Cam," who married

the heiress of Cameron of Brux. The last of the race, Jonathan, who was out in the '45, left the estates to the second sons of the Lords Forbes.

21. Mr. R. Forbes.—Probably Robert Forbes, who was a contemporary regent and canonist of King's College. (*Fasti.*)

22. R. Forbes of Asloun (Alford). — "Robertus Forbes filius de Asloune," graduated at King's College, 1667. (*Fasti.*) The Asloun Forbes' were descended from "evill Duncan of Auchintoull," an illegitimate son of Sir John Forbes of Drumnor (*Lumsden*).

23. —— Dun of Tartie (Logie-Buchan). — The Duns of Tartie were sprung of a burgess family of Aberdeen, and possessed Tartie till past 1732. Charles Dun, burgess of Aberdeen, as nearest heir to his father, a merchant there, had special service of the lands of Bandach, &c., in Dyce, 1673. (*Coll.*, i. *supra*, p. 41.)

24. Mr. W. More, Hiltone (Old Machar). — Mr. Wm. Moir of Scotstoun, gave 100 merks towards the repair of King's College, 1688. (*Fasti*).

25. George Nicolson of Cluny (Cluny).—George Nicolson of Cluny was professor of civil law in King's College, 1676 (*Fasti*). "George Nicolson of Kemnay [afterwards Sir George], a lord of session (whose father was Thomas, an Aberdeen merchant)." He had a brother Dr. Robert Nicolson, and their mother was a daughter of Abercromby of Birkenbog. (*Coll.*, i. 584, ii. 268.) The Nicolsons bought Cluny about the middle of the 17th century, probably from Sir Alexander Gordon, knight.

26. J. Gordon of Fechill (Logie-Buchan).—John, second son of Sir Robert Gordon of Pitlurg, the celebrated Geographer, had a grant from his father of the lands of Fechil; and Arthur, ninth son of Sir Robert, was the father of the founder of Gordon's Hospital, Aberdeen. (*Mem. from back of portrait of Sir R. Gordon of Pitlurg, in Gordon's Hospital.*) "The present house [of Fechil] was built about A.D. MDCCXXII., of the late James Gordon, younger of Fechil, M.D." (*Coll.*, i. 362.)

27. Ja. Sandilands of Crabston (Newhills).—"Descended of one [Thomas] Sandilands, who came from the south in Bishop Patrick Forbes's time [1618-35] and was commissary of Aberdeen." (*Coll.*, i. 238.) He gave (*Fasti*) ten rix dollars towards the repairs of King's College in 1688, upon the same condition as P. Sandilands. The property of Craibstone was bought about 1824 by Mr. Scott, a native of Huntly, who made money abroad, as a physician. He bequeathed Craibstone to trustees for the purpose of building and endowing an Hospital in his native town, where a certain number of old men and women enjoy all the comforts of home.

28. Tho. Shand of Bandach (Dyce).—In 1697 Thos. Shand was served heir to his brother, William Shand of Craig in the lands of Badinach, and others (*Coll.*, iii. 225).

29. William Cominge of Achrey (Monquhitter) mortified certain lands, and built an Hospital at Elgin for four decayed burgesses. He bought Auchry, and was buried at Monquhitter, where a monument, with a Latin inscription, records his death and his charitable deeds,

&c. The property was sold to the Lumsdens early in the present century.

30. P. GORDONE of Cults (Kinnethmont).—"The toun and landis of Cultis and Craigtoune, belonging to Hew Gordone of Smythstoune, heritablie, and wedsett to Patrik Gordone of Kinkragye, is valued at eight chalder victuall," 1635. (*Coll.*)

31. —— FORBES off Cragivar (Leochel).—The initial of the Christian name looks like W., but it may be J., as the date of the deed corresponds more with the period of *Red* Sir John, the successor of Sir William Forbes of Craigievar. Sir William married a daughter of Rose of Kilravock, and his son, *Red* Sir John, the second baronet, married a daughter of Young of Aldbar, a descendant of Sir Peter Young of Seton in Angus, almoner to James VI.

(*Supra*, p. 28.)

Although two of the great historical events connected with Scotland during the sixteenth century—the murder of David Rizzio in Holyrood Palace, and the blowing up of King Henry Darnley—have but little direct connection with the subject of the present volume, the following contemporary records of these facts may be thought sufficiently interesting to warrant their appearance in the Appendix.

"Monsr. Singnior Danid ves slane in halyruidhous ye ix day of M'che anno 1565.

The King q' blaven vp vt pud' In ye kirk of feild the x of fabruar 1566."

(From the Register of Deaths for the parish of Canongate, now in possession of the Registrar General of Scotland. Both entries are upon the same page.)

"When England and France were both prosecuting their schemes for attaching Scotland, and the issues of their diplomacy could not fail to exercise a momentous influence over the future of the country, the Burgesses were to be found, . . . discussing with much keenness and not little acrimony, the relative rights and privileges of merchants and craftsmen, in extending civic hospitalities to distinguished strangers, in legislating as to the prices of victuals, and the situation of markets, the repair of public buildings, and highways, and all the varied details of every day burghal life."

(From Records of the Burgh of Edinburgh, A.D. 1557-71.)

(*Supra*, pp. 56-57.)

One of the largest funeral monuments in the West Kirk, and so far as can now be seen, possibly one of the most elaborately carved of its time, relates to the family of Adie or Ædie, who were of local note in their day. Armorial bearings and mantlings (now very much defaced) appear to have been carved in bold relief upon the face of the stone. A small shield adorns each of the four corners. Two of them are blank, the other two are respectively initialed and dated, "A. Æ. C. G. 1604," and "D. Æ. I. F. 1644." These traces of an inscription are round the margin of the slab :—

H.....org Ædie merchant burg.....
Abd. .....
of Octr. 1657 & Ieals Bvrnet his spovs who died ye 5 Novr. 1663.

The Adies had their residence in the Green, at the foot of the Back Wynd, and in the same building as is now occupied by Mr. Buchan, baker.

ERRATA

Page 18, line 20, for Boi, read *Roi*.
,, 71, line 19, for Twenty, read *Seventy*.
,, 93, line 27, for Park, read *Pack*.

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